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LD0310131988 [Editorial Report]

Pakistan

More than 120 people were killed and 187 injured in Hyderabad 30 September when gunmen armed with automatic weapons simultaneously fired on "innocent civilians" in various parts of the city, Islamabad radio reported. Two people were arrested, a "high-level" judicial inquiry was ordered, and curfew was imposed in the wake of the violence.

Three people were subsequently killed in "isolated" shooting incidents in Hyderabad 3 October after curfew was "relaxed," the radio said.

Curfew was also imposed in Karachi, where there was a backlash to the Hyderabad shootings with Muhajirs attacking Sindhis, KYODO reported, adding that the Army was called out to "quell the rioters." According to the BBC World Service, over 40 people were killed and 70 wounded in the violence in Karachi.

Islamabad radio cited acting Chief Minister of Sind Akhtar Ali Kazi as saying the incidents of violence "were a preplanned conspiracy carried out in a scientific manner." They were "an act of sabotage, not an ethnic issue," he claimed.

Announcing that the Armed Forces would "remain on maximum alert," the Chief of the Army Staff, General Mirza Aslam Beg, contended that the Hyderabad incident was linked with the plane crash in which President Ziaul Haq was killed, Islamabad radio reported. The BBC World Service noted rumors that the trouble was "deliberately engineered" to provide an excuse to postpone elections.

Concerning the elections, Islamabad radio reported that national and provincial assembly elections will be held "on schedule on a party basis." According to a Supreme Court decision cited by the radio, every political party will be eligible to participate in the 16 November elections and will be able to use election symbols as stipulated by a 1977 election regulation. The ruling came in response to a petition submitted by Benazir Bhutto, the radio said.

Afghanistan

The appointment of a U.S. special envoy for the armed Afghani extremists in Pakistan is an "unnecessary and provocative action" which will only intensify the situation, an Afghan Foreign Ministry spokesman said. The spokesman, who was cited by Kabul radio, called the appointment "a flagrant violation" of the Geneva Accords, particularly by the country which signed the accords as a guarantor. Afghanistan once again calls on the United States to honor the Geneva Accords in full, the spokesman stated.

A PRAVDA political observer asserted that the "delicate" mission given to the U.S. special envoy will not promote an Afghan settlement, but "quite the reverse."

Moscow television also criticized the armed Afghan opposition's appeal to the United Nations for recognition, declaring, "It is noticeable that even its protectors, Pakistan and the United States, have not been so bold as to recognize their offspring officially."

Meanwhile, 22 people were killed and 52 injured when rebels fired 23 surface-to-surface missiles at Jalalabad 1 and 2 October, Kabul radio reported. According to the Afghan News Agency (ANA), Afghan rebels captured a "strategically important district capital" in eastern Konar Province near the Pakistani border, AFP reported. Government troops at Asmar surrendered to Hezb-e Eslami rebels after a 2-month seige, ANA claimed. Kabul radio asserted that 42 rebels were killed and 66 injured in recent internecine fighting in the Hazarajat region.

Iran-Iraq Negotiations in New York

After a 4-hour meeting at UN headquarters 1 October the two sides "did not budge" from the point which obstructed the resumption of negotiations in Geneva, Radio Monte Carlo reported. An earlier report by the radio noted that the UN secretary general has proposed a "package deal" to end the impasse. This suggested formula "takes into consideration" Iraq's demand for free navigation in the Gulf without Iranian hindrance or searches as well as Iran's demand for the withdrawal of forces to the international borders.

Tehran radio reports on the negotiations noted that the secretary general made "new proposals" concerning the implementation of Resolution 598 and that he demanded the full implementation of Article 1 of the resolution. The radio contended that Iraq has "lost the courage to continue its disruptive Geneva tactics" as it is in international "isolation" and is aware of the Security Council's "unanimous" support for the secretary general.

For Iraq's part, a spokesman told INA that there have been "no developments" in the Iranian stand, which has "hindered" the progress of the negotiations.

Iran

Foreign Relations—Britain has agreed to restore full diplomatic relations with Iran based on reciprocity and mutual respect, British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe announced in a 30 September statement in New York reported by IRNA. A Tehran radio report on

Howe's talks with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said they endorsed the results of earlier meetings between British and Iranian experts in Geneva, adding that further talks on the normalization of bilateral ties will continue in Geneva.

Recent reports of a Kuwaiti move to normalize relations with Iran were confirmed by the Iranian charge d'affaires in Kuwait, who stated that the reopening of the Kuwaiti Embassy in Tehran is a "major step" toward normalizing bilateral relations, according to Kuwait's ARAB TIMES. "Well-informed" sources cited by the paper disclosed that the Kuwaiti mission in Tehran comprises a charge d'affaires and a counsellor.

In Israel, THE NATION published a 30 September article alleging that Iran and the United States have held secret talks in Geneva in which they came to an agreement that will lead to the release of U.S. hostages in Lebanon.

Oil Policy—Commenting on the fall in oil prices, Petroleum Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh said the crisis is entirely the result of overproduction by the GCC states and Iraq, who are responsible for "all the violations" of the OPEC quota, according to remarks broadcast by Tehran radio.

Khomeyni Archive—Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni issued a decree 1 October appointing his son Ahmad to compile all his published and unpublished works, IRNA reported. Ahmad had asked his father for permission to do this, pointing out the need to prevent possible "distortion" arising from the existence of different versions of some of the ayatollah's messages, IRNA noted.

Saudi Arabia, Iran

An Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman rebutted Saudi allegations that four recently executed Muslims had "collaborated" with Iran, IRNA reported. Remarking on the execution in a meeting with Saudi theological students in Qom, Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri branded the Saudi regime "filthy," IRNA reported.

According to a Saudi Interior Ministry statement carried by SPA, the four Saudi nationals were beheaded 30 September for a number of crimes including: "Conspiring with Iran against the safety of their homeland and citizens;" smuggling explosives into the country; killing a security officer while resisting arrest; and implementing Iran's "evil aims" to destroy Saudi installations, destabilize the economy, and kill people.

Tehran radio cited a Hizballah of the Hijaz statement promising to "avenge the blood of these great martyrs," who were executed for their "opposition to the U.S. presence in the region" and for their "efforts to liberate the sacred land of Hijaz from imperialism."

Hostages in Lebanon

The Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine announced it will release one of the four hostages it is holding as a "sign of good will," Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The group did not indicate which hostage it would free, however, the statement it sent to a news agency was accompanied by photos of U.S. hostages Alann Steen and Jesse Turner, the radio added.

Israel

Security Situation—Four people were wounded by bomb explosions in two Jerusalem grocery stores 2 October, Jerusalem radio reported. The bombs were "small" and the injuries were not serious, the radio said. IDF radio noted that both explosive charges were placed in packages containing bread.

On the situation in the occupied territories, THE JERUSALEM POST reported that around 30 people were wounded by IDF gunfire in clashes over the weekend. The authorities are investigating the death of an Arab merchant who was one of two people shot dead in the uproar that followed the 30 September stoning attack on Rabbi Moshe Levinger's car in Hebron, the POST disclosed. In the wake of the clash in Hebron, Jewish settlers staged protests in the area against the "deterioration" of the security situation, Jerusalem radio noted.

'Watergate' Allegation—The Likud accused the Alignment of creating an "Israeli Watergate" by employing three former Shin Bet employees to spy on the Likud headquarters, HA'ARETZ reported. The allegation was partly based on a story published by HA'ARETZ itself. The Labor Party denied the charge, stressing that it "totally rejects the use of intelligence means" to obtain information on the Likud headquarters and that the three former Shin Bet men were hired for "information protection, installation security, and guard duty," the paper added.

Possible Soviet Visit—Israel "may be included" in Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze's timetable during his forthcoming Mideast tour, according to Soviet officials in Washington cited by 'AL HAMISHMAR.

Israel, Egypt on Tabah Arbitration

Egyptian Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi announced that contacts with Israel have begun on implementing the Tabah ruling, MENA reported. Sidqi said that Egypt is committed to implementing the ruling in "complete good will" and expects a "similar" attitude from the Israelis within the specified 3-week period. Israeli MK and Shinuy Party leader Amnon Rubinstein left for discussions in Cairo 2 October after meeting with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Jerusalem radio noted.

Commenting on Shamir's accusations that the Alignment cooperated with the United States and Egypt against the Likud on the Tabah issue, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres told Jerusalem radio he believed Shamir "did not seriously mean" what he said.

PLO Affairs

'Arafat Activities—PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Baghdad for the PRC 2 October, XINHUA reported, noting that the PLO leader is expected to hold talks with senior Chinese officials on the latest developments in the Middle East. 'Arafat met with President Saddam Husayn during his stay in Iraq, INA noted. 'Arafat also revealed in Baghdad that he recently escaped an assassination attempt, according to the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio.

Salary Payments—The PLO began paying the wages of former Jordanian Government employees in the occupied territories as of 1 October, Baghdad Voice of the PLO radio reported, noting that this is in accordance with a decision issued by Yasir 'Arafat. Employees who were no longer paid by Jordan following the latter's decision to disengage from the West Bank can now obtain their monthly salaries from PLO funds deposited in the Arab Bank in Amman. WAKH cited reports that the amount payable will reach around $1 million a month.

Jordan

General parliamentary elections have been postponed by royal decree, Amman radio announced. The elections will be held after the government completes amendments to the electoral law in light of the decision to "disengage" legal and administrative relations with the occupied West Bank, the radio pointed out.

King Husayn met with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn during a 1-day visit to Baghdad, where the two discussed efforts to establish peace in the Gulf, Amman radio reported.

Libya

The FRG is upgrading its diplomatic relations with Libya by appointing the former chief of mission in Qatar as ambassador to Libya, DPA reported. Meanwhile, the resumption of diplomatic ties between Chad and Libya was "officially confirmed" by a "very reliable source" at the Togolese Presidency, AFP disclosed. According to the source, an unconditional joint communique will be published 3 October. The resumption of relations follows Togolese mediatory moves personally initiated by General Eyadema, AFP stated.

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Notes 'Treacherous Assassination Attempt'

NC0310075688 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0700 GMT 3 Oct 88

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman, left for Beijing yesterday on a visit of unspecified duration to the PRC, during which he will hold talks on the latest developments in the Palestinian arena. It should be recalled that this is the first visit to China by Brother Abu 'Ammar in 3 years.

During his 6-day visit to Iraq, Brother Abu 'Ammar held discussions with Iraqi officials led by President Saddam Husayn. The talks concerned developments in the popular uprising and the current Arab situation.

During his stay in Baghdad, Brother Abu 'Ammar addressed a delegation representing the Arab Artists Association. He stressed he had escaped a treacherous assassination attempt in the past few days.

'Source' Denies Report

NC0310103988 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1025 GMT 3 Oct 88

[Text] Tunis, 3 Oct (MENA)—A responsible Palestinian source has denied a Gulf paper's recent report citing PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat on his escape from an assassination attempt. The source said that even though the Palestinian leader and people are constantly being pursued and harried by the Israeli enemy, Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has not been the target of any recent assassination attempt.

'Arafat Cites 'Dangerous Situation' in Jerusalem

NC0210180988 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1608 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Oct (MENA)—Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat has urged the heads of Islamic, Arab, and African countries, as well as the custodian of the two holy mosques, and the chairman of the Jerusalem Committee to move quickly to confront the dangerous situation in Jerusalem.

Bassam Abu Sharif, adviser to the Palestinian leader, has disclosed that 'Arafat sent urgent messages this afternoon to Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, in his capacity as chairman of the Islamic Summit Conference; Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, in his capacity as chairman of the Arab Summit Conference; Malian President Moussa Traore, in his capacity of chairman of the African Summit Conference; King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz; and Moroccan King Hassan II, in his capacity as chairman of the Jerusalem Committee, on the dangerous situation in Jerusalem. 'Arafat, he added, urged these leaders to move quickly and exert all efforts to put an end to the hideous and terrorist Israeli acts of aggression against Palestinian citizens, Jerusalem, and the holy shrines.

In a statement to the MENA correspondet in Baghdad, Abu Sharif described the situation in Jerusalem as extremely dangerous in view of the brutal acts of aggression which the occupation forces and armed settlers committed against the Palestinian citizens within and outside the walls of the city this morning. He said Israeli troops and settlers fired randomly and used poison gas intensively against thousands of demonstrators protesting the presence of occupation forces in the city, as well as the occupation forces' military campaign against a number of villages on the outskirts of Jerusalem throughout last night. As a result, Abu Sharif added, scores of Palestinians were wounded. He said the occupation forces and armed settlers prevented ambulances from evacuating the wounded to hospitals.

PLO Said Ready To Accept Resolutions 242, 338

PM3009144188 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 27 Sep 88 pp 1-2

[Unattributed report: "'Arafat Submitted Palestinian Paper; Mubarak To Discuss It During European Tour"]

[Text] Informed Arab sources have told AL-SHA'B that Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat submitted a Palestinian paper to President Mubarak during their talks last Wednesday and asked him to discuss it with the European states during his (current) tour.

The Palestinian paper emphasizes that the PLO is currently seeking to prove its peaceful intentions toward peace initiatives and welcomes all efforts urging peace in the region. The Palestinian paper stresses a number of facts:

1. The PLO is ready to recognize Resolutions 242 and 338 within the framework of the other UN resolutions to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict.

2. The Palestinian state that is expected to be announced is a state of peace in the region and does not harbor any hostile intentions against Israel if Israel agrees to restore the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people.

3. Settling the situation in the occupied Arab territories and granting the Palestinian people the right to self-determination constitute an essential step that the European states should endorse.

In this context, 'Arafat emphasized that during his recent European talks some European officials asked him to stop the Palestinian uprising inside the Arab territories, as the European states believe this could constitute a prelude to the initiation of the peace process. 'Arafat asked Mubarak to exert direct pressure on the European states to persuade the Israeli Government to cease its

repressive measures and agree to enter into peace procedures at the same time. 'Arafat emphasized his readiness to enter into negotiations with the Israeli Government under U.S. auspices to settle the situation in the occupied Arab territories.

In his talks 'Arafat focused on Palestinian-European differences over the definition of Palestinian fedayeen actions. He told Mubarak that Europe must view Israeli actions as terrorist and repressive actions against Palestinians inside [the occupied territory].

For his part, Mubarak affirmed that he would convey to the European states his basic concepts as follows:

The PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people at any international negotiations in the future;

The PLO is ready to enter into a peace process and abandon the idea of armed struggle against Israel;

Israeli repressive measures must cease and this should coincide with the initiation of peace procedures in which the PLO, Jordan, Egypt, and the two superpowers participate to settle the situation.

Furthermore, Mubarak stressed to 'Arafat the importance of Jordanian-Palestinian coordination during the next stage and the need to reached detailed agreement on the next peace procedures.

PLO Deposits Funds for West Bank Salaries

JN3009150488 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1405 GMT 30 Sep 88

[By Faruq Shukri]

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Sep (WAKH)—The PLO has deposited in the Arab Bank in the Jordanian capital, Amman, sufficient funds to pay the salaries of the West Bank employees affected by Jordan's decisions, which included termination of payment of these salaries. An authorized Palestinian source has told a WAKH correspondent in Baghdad that Palestinian employees can now receive their salaries and salary differentials [faruq rawatib] from the bank. This measure came in implementation of the PLO's decision to shoulder full responsibility toward employees and workers in the occupied West Bank. In the end of last July, Jordan decided to disengage legal and administrative relationships with the West Bank and to terminate the payment of Palestinian employees' salaries after that date.

The authorized Palestinian source did not specify the amount deposited by the PLO in the bank for this purpose. Reports say that this amount reaches around $1 million a month. The PLO's decision issued by Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat also included that all laws, instructions, and decisions enforced in the occupied Palestinian territories until the end of July will remain valid until they are amended. It also included that all employees working in the public departments and institutions in the occupied Palestinian territories who were affected by the Jordanian decisions and measures will remain in their posts and fields of speciality. Libya has announced it will pay the salaries of all Palestinian employees working in the occupied West Bank following talks held between Yasir 'Arafat and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

The authorized Palestinian source pointed out that the PLO has instructed the bank to pay salaries of the Palestinian employees according to their previous rates. It is worth mentioning that Jordan has announced the pensioning of 3,500 employees who were employed before Israel took over the West Bank in 1967. It also stopped paying the salaries of around 16,000 employees as from the middle of last month.

Salaries Available 1 Oct

JN0110205488 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1925 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] Our radio's correspondent has learned that in implementation of the decision issued by Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, regarding the occupied territory employees whose salaries ceased to be paid by the Jordanian Government following its decision to disengage administrative and legal relations, the PLO has deposited the salaries of all employees as well as salary differentials in the Arab Bank in Amman. All these employees can report to the Arab Bank to receive their salaries as of 1 October 1988. This will continue every month as usual. [sentence as heard]

AL-ITTIHAD Interviews PLO's Hani al-Hasan

JN2909195288 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 28 Sep 88 p 9

[Interview with Hani al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member and political adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat—date, place not given]

[Text] AL-ITTIHAD: Will the PLO accommodate Israel's condition for sitting with it at the conference table.

Hani al-Hasan: To begin with, Israel is devising new conditions all the time, since it is not interested in peace. There may be a difference between Shamir and Peres on that count. Shamir is a Torah man who espouses a blind belief that it is not religiously permissible to relinquish the Palestinian territory occupied in 1967. Peres, on the other hand, realizes that it no longer serves Israel's interests to stay on the land occupied in 1967. This is not to say he is prepared to evacuate the occupied land on

Palestinan national terms. Accordingly, a ferocious battle is now waging between the Israelis and the Palestinians and the battle ground has now shifted from scattered localities along the Lebanese border and in Palestinian cities and streets to the whole world.

All the world is now a party to this conflict thanks to the glorious uprising and the massive sacrifices led by 4,000 handicapped Palestinian children, who are the true builders of the achievements of this stage. We therefore do not pay attention to what Shamir says. Neither do we care for Israeli demands or conditions. This is because we know that, at the end of the day, we will not secure anything from Israel through begging or understanding. Rights are to be wrested. Shamir's demand that we discontinue struggle and confrontation can only come from a man who has been left behind by history; no revolutionary movement may cease its struggle before it has realised its objectives.

AL-ITTIHAD: If this is a key demand of Shamir's, suppose the PLO called his bluff and accepted his condition or something along its lines like the Cairo Declaration, for instance?

Hani al-Hasan: A distinction should be made here between armed struggle and terror.

AL-ITTIHAD: I mean armed struggle which Shamir calls terror.

Hani al-Hasan: As I have just said, history has passed Shamir. In a resolution it passed last year, the United Nations defined terrorism, liberation, and national struggle. It accepted that peoples striving for the liberation of their occupied land would not be engaging in terror. Frankly speaking, we are seeking to isolate Shamir's policies. Therefore, whatever Shamir says by way of laying conditions or demanding a cessation of struggle we will not consider—not for a single second. He is a prevaricator who does not mean what he says.

Characteristically, Shamir is a liar. He tells the Israeli right wing one thing and the Israeli left wing another. He talks about putting down the uprising in a matter of days and subsequently goes to Ceausescu asking that he mediate with 'Arafat for an interim solution providing for the PLO to take charge of seif-rule. In his letter to Ceausescu he addresses himself to Israel's leftist electorate, whereas in his statements about quelling the uprising he is addressing Israel's right-wing constituency. We have no time to waste replying to Shamir's electioneering acrobatics.

AL-ITTIHAD: Do you mean to say it would be easier to do business with a Labor government in Israel?

Hani al-Hasan: On the contrary. As I have said, I do not think the PLO will find it easier with a Labor government in office, since such a government will also be out to put down the uprising. If Shamir wants to quell the uprising with repression, a Peres-led government will set out to do the job with political abortion. We can deal with either differently. One thing I'd like to call attention to, however, is that we ought not to overstate the advantages of a Labor government and thereby sell it to world public opinion.

We will have created a halo around Peres and the Labor Party that we'll find hard to undo once the drawn-out and arduous negotiations at the international conference get under way. Both are enemies and we have to be prepared to confront Shamir if he wins the elections and be similarly poised if Peres comes out on top. If Shamir should win the elections, the battle will be essentially sanguine. If on the other hand Peres wins, the battle will essentially be political. AL-ITTIHAD: The uprising has entered its 10th month and has achieved a lot. Most probably, it was the principal reason for Jordan's decision on the disengagement of ties. As we have been told, this decision was made without prior consultations with the PLO. What are the features of the forthcoming stage between Jordan and the PLO?

Hani al-Hasan: I believe Jordan has adopted a step in the right direction. I call this an end to political overlapping and not disengagement, because Jordan cannot disengage itself from the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian people. The same applies to Egypt, and many thought that Egypt had ended its relationship with the cause following the Camp David accords. This has proved to be false. The conflict exists in the region between Israel and its neighbors as a result of Israel's very nature. If Israel discards this nature, it will cease to be itself, and the United States will no longer need to spend these large sums on it.

It goes without saying that the Jordanian stand has provided the PLO with a golden opportunity to rally around it world political forces, headed by Europe, as the uncontested Palestinian people's sole and legitimate representative. The past stage no longer exists. We must now enter the stage of rapprochement which follows alienation which previously existed. We will do our best to carry out rapprochement.

We will not permit the Jordanian Likud or the Palestinian Likud to distance Jordan from Palestine. There exists a real unity between the Jordanian and Palestinian people. This unity perhaps is the only real unity between two Arab countries in this region. That's why we will begin to promote Jordanian-Palestinian relations by expanding Jordanian-Palestinian cooperation and by seeking the appropriate formula for this cooperation, particularly following the establishment of the provisional government in the coming stage and Jordan's recognition of this government. Only then can we search for new formulas for the future in light of this new reality.

AL-ITTIHAD: With respect to the provisional government, the PLO is sending out feelers to Arab countries in particular and to the European and Eastern bloc countries. What has so far been achieved with respect to international recognition of this government?

Hani al-Hasan: The most important requirement of the provisional government and the most important justification for moving from the stage of the PLO Executive Committee to that of the provisional govermnment is the consolidation of national independence and the recognition of this government by the Western world. The Western world basically comprises Europe, the United States, and Japan. You may have sensed that Brother Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat's] visit to Strasbourg is a sign Europe is on its way to collectively adopting the PLO.

I was in Brussels on 5 September, that is, 1 week before ['Arafat's] visit. I met there with several EEC commissioners, particularly with Claude Cheysson, the friend of the oppressed people and a progressive and enlightened man. We held a discussion which lasted more than 3 hours on the developments in the future stage and the necessity of a European move in the coming stage. This has had its impact on Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit to Strasbourg, where the chairman of the socialist group in the EEC stood up and told the parliamentarians: Do not ask Yasir 'Arafat about the issue of recognizing Israel, because we understand the Palestinian stand which says that this issue calls for mutual, not unilateral, recognition. This is in addition to the fact that Europe has spoken in favor of the right to self-determination.

Following her meeting with Peres, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher spoke about the right to self-determination for the Palestinians. If Europe abides by the right to self-determination, by the principle that recognition must be mutual, and that no one party should alone make concessions to the other party, then this will be an important meeting point on the basis of which European-Palestinian relations will develop. If this takes place, then the road to Europe for the provisional government will be paved.

AL-ITTIHAD: Must the mutual recognition take place now?

Hani al-Hasan: Europe has now set three bases for 'Arafat's visit. It said the European opinion is that the political process must be based on mutual recognition, security for all, and Palestinian self-determination.

This is the European stand, which means that, in the end, there must be a common ground between any Palestinian government that will be formed and Europe. This means Europe and the Palestinian government, which represents the future Palestinian state, are getting closer to each other in the coming stage.

AL-ITTIHAD: We have read a statement made by President Mitterrand during his reception of Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali in which he talked about "the disputed territories" and not about "the occupied territories." Do you think this is an advance in the French stand toward the Palestinian question?

Hani al-Hasan: We must discuss any politician's speech within its context and not only discuss its wording. We must realize the following: Mitterand made a speech while in the presence of a new and rising Arab leader, Zine El Abidine Ben Ali. He made it at the moment of 'Arafat's arrival in Strasbourg and at the moment of a brave French decision to hold a meeting between French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas and brother Abu 'Ammar on French territory and in the European Parliament. Hence, Mitterrand had to consider his election interests, which will be harvested this week in parliamentary elections. Therefore, with the Europeans, we must not deal according to a Palestinian standard but according to a comprehensive standard. That is to say, we have to see what they say about Palestinian rights.

Therefore, we appreciate the recent French stand on the Palestinian level. We will temporarily ignore all talk they make outside this context because he cannot make all these courageous steps without considering his steps in the French arena. Mitterrand is a president of a strong country which is considered the heart of Europe. Undoubtedly, he is qualified to play a major role in the region. We do not forget the Egyptian-French initiative submitted to the UN Security Council during the 1982 war while he was also in the Presidency. Therefore, a man like President Mitterrand, who wants to propose initiatives and to play a role that is awaited by the Palestinians, cannot talk without weighing his steps. Hence, we Palestinians are concerned about what he says on the Palestinian issue as was demonstrated in the three alternatives I mentioned before.

AL-ITTIHAD: I want to return to Strasbourg for more clarifications. It was reported that the Zionist lobby succeeded in confining Brother Abu 'Ammar's speech to the socialist group in the parliament—a group of around 168 parliamentarians—which originally extended the invitation, instead of addressing the whole parliament. How true is this? Has the Zionist lobby really succeeded in its efforts or was what happened preplanned?

Hani al-Hasan: No. What happened was much better than we expected. The invitation was originally made by the socialist group. This is how things happen, because if the invitation were made by the European Parliament, then this suggests recognition by every European of the results of the dialogue between Europe and the Palestinians before it even begins. An invitation from the European Parliament means a European recognition of 'Arafat and the Palestinian state before he arrives in Strasbourg.

Hence, the invitation could have been made by the Parliament in the first stage. It was addressed by the socialist group. And because it was addressed by the socialist group, the lecture or speech could not be delivered at the primary parliament hall. The largest hall, other than the primary hall, was chosen as the venue of 'Arafat's speech. Socialist parliamentarians as well as parliamentarians from the Green and Christian Parties attended. In addition to the 163 socialist parliamentarians, 40 others attended. The reason is that there was no room for one more person in the hall. This is a parliament and it does not have a hall for celebrations.

The first priority was given to the socialist parliamentarians, and then all groups represented in the European Parliament attended. Because of parliamentary disputes, the socialist parliamentarians tried to prevent some forces from attending. These forces protested to the PLO. Brother Abu 'Ammar intervened with the socialist group so each group would have a representative in the hall.

The truth is the respect and appreciation that Brother Yasir 'Arafat received from all parliamentarians with their different trends fit the representative of the brave Palestinian people who made these sacrifices. We in Palestine will record in history that the European socialists, particularly the German socialists, who were brave in confronting the Zionist lobby, supported the just rights of the Palestinian people by inviting Brother Abu 'Ammar to visit. This is a turning point in European-Palestinian relations.

AL-ITTIHAD: You mentioned Romanian and French initiatives. The news said that during his visit to France, President Mubarak will discuss ideas or an initiative which could constitute an Egyptian-French initiative. Would you throw light on the general headlines of this initiative?

Hani al-Hasan: I did not talk about a Romanian initiative. But I said Shamir proposed to Romania that it present ideas to the PLO. It is a false initiative by Shamir through Romania. The purpose is to talk with the Israeli left wing to gain votes. Therefore, he is a liar. All he wants is to gain votes to gain more power and to escalate his brutality against the Palestinian people.

AL-ITTIHAD: But there is talk about Romanian ideas which Ceausescu supposedly discussed with President Mubarak while passing through Cairo?

Hani al-Hasan: Shamir tried to hide behind Ceausescu. But when things were discused within a prolonged dialogue with the Romanian president, Brother Abu 'Ammar disclosed that they are the ideas of Shamir, not Ceausescu. Therefore, Brother Abu 'Ammar announced that during the discussions they studied Shamir's objectives. Shamir began to go back on his ideas because all that he wanted was to give a sign to the left wing and to show that he is not a hardliner as they think. So, he fell into the trap he set himself.

AL-ITTIHAD: What about the French-Egyptian initiative?

Hani al-Hasan: The French-Egyptian initiative you talked about took place in 1982. It has not been withdrawn from the Security Council. It still exists. Undoubtedly, there is no role for Europe without France. But France is not all of Europe. France is the main actor in any European move. We pin great hopes on President Mubarak's visit to Europe. A discussion was made on this move during Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit to Cairo, particularly since Brother Abu 'Ammar laid down important views on this European move with a number of European countries. There is also Craxi, the faithful friend of the Palestinian people, who is qualified to play a big role.

There is also Papandreou in Greece whose policy is considered a reiteration of the Greek role defending the Third World and the cause of the Palestinian people. There is also Spain, which is preparing itself for an important move. If the British stand completes this, we will find that Europe will play a big role in this regard. Therefore, we pin high hopes on President Husni Mubarak in view of the fact he and Egypt are greatly respected in Europe. President Mubarak succeeded in reestablishing the balance that Al-Sadat had impaired. He moved Egypt from Al-Sadat's policy to a policy of balance among the United States, Europe, and the USSR.

To be more accurate, he has adopted a policy that leads to a balance among the United States, Europe, and the USSR. It is true that this has not yet materialized. The road is arduous and he has started from a point which is below zero. Now Egypt has reached to a point which is above zero in this respect. Egypt's relations with the USSR are excellent. Its relations with Europe are like a shock absorber regarding the United States on many issues and on many levels. We hope the meeting between Abu 'Ammar and President Mubarak will result in a clear understanding on how to activate the European role in the coming stage.

AL-ITTIHAD: You have come to Egypt to prepare for Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit and you have said you are looking forward to seeing an Egyptian role. Is Egypt's European role the only one desired? Or do you hope to see Egypt play another role?

Hani al-Hasan: I believe Egypt can play an advantageous role when the slogan of the phase is: "The pursuit of political action supported by armed action," which is the slogan of the current phase. Let me explain this point. When the world goes through a phase of tension, the slogan of the phase becomes: "The pursuit of armed

action supported by political action." This means you are at the phase of cultivation. However, when the superpowers agree on a new Yalta agreement, the world begins to work according to the slogan: "The pursuit of political action supported by armed action," and not vice versa.

Therefore, since the phase is governed by the slogan, "the pursuit of political action supported by armed action," Egypt is viewed as a party with an important role in all the current directions in this regard. However, Egypt is like the Nile. Patience is needed to see it flood. Hence, whenever we find a chance for action, we head for Egypt to see how we can coordinate in this regard. The only arena open from now and until the end of the U.S. and Israeli elections is the European arena.

AL-ITTIHAD: Brother Hani al-Hasan, I return once again to the European and U.S. roles. Now that the superpowers have agreed to resolve regional conflicts, do you believe or have you received messages from the Soviet side that a solution on the Palestine question has been reached with the United States, as there is a current premise in the arena that the United States is the only party that must be dealt with to bring pressure to bear on Israel?

Hani al-Hasan: I know of this premise that we must head for the United States to make it exert pressure on Israel and that it is the only party capable of exerting pressure on Israel. It is true it is the only party capable of exerting pressure on Israel. However, we are living in the era of the political settlements agreed upon by the superpowers. Therefore, there can be no settlement in the absence of an agreement reached by the superpowers. There are settlements in which the Americans participate—settlements secured in areas that belong to the Soviet sphere of influence. And there are settlements in which the Soviets participate—settlements secured in areas which belong to the U.S. sphere of influence. Unfortunately, we are located in the U.S. sphere of influence.

Hence, events have proved what others used to blame us for in the past. We used to say that the Palestinian people can achieve nothing except through self-reliance and the deeds of their young men, children, and men. The Palestinian people are the ones who cultivate and harvest. Our revolution is unique in history. Special volumes will be written on this revolution in the future, as its accomplishments under the PLO and through what I call the 'Arafatist method and tactics can be considered to comprise an entire school of thought. Therefore, the future Palestinian state will be decided in the streets of Nabulus, Hebron, Gaza, and Khan Yunus and not in Washington or Moscow. It is being decided in our streets.

As for the big powers controlling the world, they do not allow you to reach solutions unless they approve them. Therefore, the accomplishment is scored on our land in Palestine, while the celebrations might take place in Geneva or Belgrade. This is the equation. And we no longer wait for anybody to furnish us with ideas, as we are the best to export ideas. However, we believe we must consecrate an accomplishment on the ground. There is no doubt that we, in cooperation with our friends in the Soviet Union and Europe, have to impose this accomplishment on the United States, which must in turn impose it on Israel. This is the equation. Rest assured that there can be no other equation. Many used to harbor delusions that the international situation will bring us a state. We were among those who resisted these tendencies, as the Palestinian cause is a Palestinian accomplishment scored on the ground and approved by the international situation. And here comes the role of our Soviet and European friends. AL-ITTIHAD: It was in this context that Polyakov made his recent visit to Tunis.

Hani al-Hasan: Last week's Tunis visit by Polyakov was for consultations about likely developments. There was also an exchange of views, with the Soviet official being advised of possible Palestinian trends in the coming PNC session.

AL-ITTIHAD: There was talk about the PNC and then it was postponed or referred to political legal committees. Then suddenly there was a kind of news blackout on the subject.

Hani al-Hasan: God willing, the PNC will convene soon enough. On security grounds and on the strength of information we have received, it has been decided that we refrain from talking about fixed dates. However, a date has been fixed and the PNC will convene shortly, God willing. The political and legal committee has completed an important part of its studies. What is required now are political decisions based on the report submitted by the committee. The intra-Palestinian dialogue inside the PLO ended on 16 September. We will now embark upon a dialogue about details.

AL-ITTIHAD: Could you hint in broad terms at these decisions?

Hani al-Hasan: I am reluctant to talk because as a majority a Fatah man would seem to be trying to impose his opinion. We believe in democratic dialogue on an equal footing. In actual fact there is now true Palestinian democracy. I mean there is complete agreement on the political line. There is complete accord despite attempts here and there to put forward new ideas. However, there are details still being discussed.

Will the [commando] groups participate in the government? If the groups participate, so will Fatah and will have a major share. If, on the other hand, the groups will not participate, neither will Fatah. This is because the uprising has transcended small factions. We used to talk about Fatah. Now we talk about the Palestinian people. We used to talk about the PFLP. Now we talk about the Palestinian people. This is because the entire people are

now involved and making a contribution to the PLO. And so we must see things from the perspective of the people rather than of the factions.

AL-ITTIHAD: Does this mean the National Charter will be amended?

Hani al-Hasan: Certainly not. What I meant is that previously we comprised an executive committee where power lay with the factions, whereas now the discussions revolve around whether the government will be formed and which side will enjoy a majority therein: the politicians and technocrats or the groups.

AL-ITTIHAD: Is this to say the technocrats will enter the provisional government?

Al-Hasan: They are not technocrats, properly speaking. It would be wrong to view Walid al-Khalidi as a technocrat. Now the revolution belongs to all the people. We must recruit our finest political and technical personnel for the provisional government.

AL-ITTIHAD: Don't you think this will lead to an overlapping of functions between the PLO and the provisional government?

Hani al-Hasan: No There will be controls.

AL-ITTIHAD: Will the PLO's Executive Committee and the provisional government exist side by side?

Hani al-Hasan: This also is one of the points we are discussing now. I think the two will coexist. However, the matter has yet to be settled.

Egypt

'Abd al-Majid UN General Assembly Speech

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[Speech by Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, to the UN General Assembly on 30 September]

[Excerpt] New York, 30 Sep (MENA)—[Introductory passage omitted] Mr President: It certainly gives me pleasure to see you assume the Presidency of this session, representing your friendly country Argentina and your youthful continent Latin America. You will enrich the General Assembly with your experience and your renowned wisdom and long experience. We are confident that this session will constitute an important landmark in the course of world progress. I would also like to commend the achievements of your predecessor, President Peter Florin, the deputy minister of foreign affairs of the friendly German Democratic Republic, during his presidency of the last session, as well as the special session on disarmament. He very efficiently handled the work of both sessions.

Mr President: A few weeks ago the foreign ministers of nonaligned countries met in Cyprus to study and assess the international situation and its developments, particularly the indications of a new stage of detente between the two superpowers, different from that prevailing in the seventies. This detente represents a more progressive stage along the course of peaceful and positive coexistence. If it maintains its momentum and the present wide scope, this detente can provide a favorable political atmosphere for comprehensive disarmament, including both nuclear arms and general weapons of destruction. It can also pave the way for further cooperation among countries of different social and political systems, provide more opportunities for them to contribute to the world economy, and enhance the principle of peaceful settlement of disputes.

A number of factors indicate the significance and importance of such a positive development. They are represented in the encouraging first steps toward solving many regional and international issues. However, some of these issues are still pending. In the Middle East, for example, the Palestinian issue still faces obstacles as a result of the intransigence manifest in the stands of certain parties. This has prevented the Middle East from catching up with other regions which are now well on the way to reaching just and lasting settlements.

In recent years the Palestinian issue was the target of attempts aimed at imposing the status quo and consecrating the Israeli occupation. However, the Palestinian uprising has challenged all repressive and tyrannic measures. Believing in their just cause, the Palestinian people have managed to have their existence recognized, gain increasing world support for their national rights, and prove that it is impossible to return to the conditions which prevailed before the uprising. The escalating repressive measures taken by the Israeli occupation troops will not work with the uprising. These measures include expulsion, administrative detention without trial, imprisonment, confiscation of property, destruction of homes, torture, closure of schools and universities, and freezing the activities of labor unions. In taking these measures Israel is violating the rules of international law, the Geneva convention, and the declaration on human rights. Egypt and the entire international community strongly condemn these measures.

King Husayn of Jordan's decision last July to sever legal and administrative ties with the West Bank aimed to strengthen the representative nature of the PLO, in accordance with the resolutions of the Arab summit. As the sole representative of the Palestinian people, the PLO now bears primary responsibility for the occupied Palestinian lands. The Jordanian and Palestinian sides have asserted their determination to continue cooperation and consultations, which are dictated by the prevailing conditions and the unified goal: to end the Israeli occupation in the framework of a just, lasting, and comprehensive settlement based on the principles and provisions of international legitimacy.

Because of its faith in this sublime objective, Egypt has demanded that an international conference for peace in the Middle East be convened within the UN framework, in which all parties concerned, including the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, will participate. Further, the states which are permanent members of the UN Security Council should also take part in this conference. This would allow direct negotiations among these parties in a bid to work out a just solution to the Palestinian issue and put an end to regional tension in the Middle East, which threatens world peace and security.

There is no doubt that world support for convening the international conference has become one of the constants on which Arab and international political and diplomatic action is based in terms of solving the Palestinian problem. There is also an international consensus for convening this conference as soon as possible.

Consequently, we welcome the U.S. course, which is based chiefly on the principle of the Palestinian people's political rights and on land in return for peace. This was reiterated in Secretary of State Shultz' initiative of April 1988 and during the tripartite meeting attended by President Reagan on 26 September. This principle is in line with the concept of the UN charter and Security Council resolutions, foremost being Resolution 242, which stipulates that it is inadmissible to seize land through war. This principle, we believe, governs the entire resolution, and the crucial guarantee for implementing it is the establishment of a just, comprehensive peace that precludes renewed conflict in the future.

Ignoring the facts, failing to acknowledge the genuine character of the conflict, continuously bypassing the Palestinian people and their legitimate representatives, and ignoring their national rights, including their right to self-determination, will keep this conflict unresolved and generate long-range, grave consequences in the area. It is high time the various sides adopted brave, historic decisions to overcome all obstructions on the road to peace. In this regard, we welcome statements by ranking Palestinian officials. These statements emphasize the PLO's readiness to negotiate for the sake of reaching a just, peaceful settlement of the Palestinian problem and its readiness to effect a mutual and simultaneous recognition of Israel. This development is worthy of support and expresses a sound understanding of the facts and requirements of the situation. I also take this opportunity to commend the peace-loving forces in Israel struggling for the sake of a just, lasting settlement.

Mr President: If our strategic objective, as I said, is to attain a just, lasting settlement of the Palestinian problem to ensure the establishment of security and stability in the area, we are confident that the deployment of nuclear weapons in the Middle East or threats to deploy them would upset tremendously the area's security and stability. Therefore, I ask Israel once again from this rostrum to drop the nuclear option, to join the nuclear nonprofileration treaty, and to submit its nuclear utilities to guarantees from the International Atomic Energy Agency. This would undoubtedly consolidate confidence and give momentum to the peace process.

In this regard, Egypt is working painstakingly to establish a denuclearized zone in the Middle East. We hope this zone will be established as soon as possible.

Mr President: Allow me to turn to the situation in the Gulf, where after an 8-year war the Iraqi-Iranian dispute has entered a new phase, in which the parties concerned admit that political settlement and serious negotiations represent the only way to establish security and justice in this region. Naturally, the parties' mere acceptance of Security Council Resolution 598 and the suspension of military operations do not in themselves mean that the conflict is over or that peace prevails, because the matter requires both goodwill and seriousness.

While appreciating the UN role in working to find a peaceful settlement for this conflict, we hope Iran will prove its good intentions. An understanding by Iran of the requirements of the current situation, as already demonstrated by Iraq, would expedite an honorable and just settlement of the dispute and help achieve security and stability soon, so that the region's states and peoples could live in peace and direct their human and economic resources toward reconstruction and development, benefiting all the region's peoples.

Mr President: As for the problem facing the fraternal Lebanese people, the regional powers interfering in Lebanon's affairs still refuse to admit that regional ambitions, narrow political interests, and foreign parties' attempts to control Lebanon will not bring about true security for any of these parties, since the Lebanese people themselves will in the end pay the price and endure the loss. We appeal to our brothers in Lebanon, of whatever doctrine or inclination, to put the interests of their people and the unity and security of their country above any other consideration.

Mr President: The situation in Afghanistan witnessed some positive developments this year, when the United Nations and its secretary general played an effective role in reconciling the views of the various parties, which made it possible to conclude the Geneva accords, taking Afghanistan to new and brighter horizons after its people had suffered through a bold and historic struggle.

In this respect I would like to hail the Soviet decision to pull out of Afghanistan and its declaration of its intention to honestly implement this decision. However, these positive developments must not make us forget that a true and final solution for the problem of Afghanistan can be reached only by enabling its struggling people to choose their government freely and independently, by returning the refugees to their homes, and by ending foreign intervention.

Mr President: As for the situation in Africa, where the OAU has recently celebrated its silver jubilee marking many accomplishments, some positive developments have come about, despite difficulties. It is through these developments that we hope the struggling people of Namibia will attain their independence under the leadership of SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization], their sole legitimate representative, and that Angola's territorial integrity will be maintained.

We would like to stress our support for the heroic struggle by the South African people under the leadership of the National Liberation Movement and its leader Nelson Mandela. We also call upon the international community to continue shouldering its responsibility in ending the abominable policy of apartheid.

We welcome the peaceful developments in northwest Africa of the past few weeks with regard to the Western Sahara issue. We believe the secretary general's proposals and constructive efforts to resolve the situation, which have been accepted by the parties, are a big step forward. We are looking toward the practical implementation of these proposals and toward achieving more progress to resolve this issue, which has been a source of concern for the international community and the Arab and African worlds for a long time.

Mr President: At the same time, a number of other regional problems have begun to benefit from this positive atmosphere. One example is Cambodia, which is witnessing a real effort to bring about its independence,

territorial integrity, and sovereignty and to reach a just solution guaranteeing the right of self-determination for its people, without foreign interference.

Positive action is also being made under UN supervision with regard to the Cypriot issue. We look toward a future where agreement will be reached on preserving Cyprus' unity and territorial integrity, within the framework of a nonaligned federal state that guarantees equal rights for all its communities and individuals. We hope that the start of the dialogue between the Cypriot president and the leader of the Turkish community will be a positive step in that direction.

We also hope that this prevailing general atmosphere for settlements will include a solution for the Korean people, in accordance with the people's desire to unify the two Korean sectors.

Mr President: Recent positive developments in a number of regional problems have shown that the United Nations has an important role which it can play competently to settle regional conflicts, given the opportunity. This prompts us to appeal to member states to help end the organization's financial crisis so that it can continue to play its role as an effective tool for achieving justice, solidarity, and peace, in accordance with its Charter.

It pleases me on this occasion to congratulate the United Nations, whose peacekeeping forces have won this year's Nobel Peace Prize, in recognition of the increasing and effective role of peacekeeping operations in various parts of the world. As the international community expresses satisfaction with the United Nations' increasing role in resolving regional problems, we are prompted to focus again on the fact that this role is based on one of its Charter's major principles, that of peaceful settlement of conflicts. This is one of the oldest ways of enhancing peace opportunities. The extent of commitment to it reflects the level of international maturity in practicing and regulating relations among states, breaking out of dead-end courses and endeavoring to find the appropriate solutions for these conflicts.

In this respect, I want to note in particular the agreement of the Egyptian and Israeli parties on 11 September 1986 to resort to binding arbitration to resolve the dispute between them regarding some markers delineating international borders between Egypt and Palestine under the mandate. This dispute became known as the Tabah problem. The two parties' agreement on the arbitral compromis referred to the UN Charter and laws, particularly Article 33, which urges parties to a conflict to seek its resolution through one of the courses mentioned in it. Hence, the ruling issued yesterday, 29 September, in Geneva by the international arbitration panel on the Tabah problem will strengthen the trend calling for resorting to the principles of international law and the commitment to the noble principles on which the UN Charter is based.

It is a source of pleasure for us that the verdict reached by the arbitration panel acknowledged that Tabah is Egyptian and lies within Egyptian sovereign territory, thus upholding Egypt's legal and historical rights to that area. I am confident that the quick implementation in good faith of the verdict issued by the arbirtration panel will have ramifications surpassing the subject of the dispute itself, ease the political climate in the region, and help bring about further positive developments.

Mr President: As we approach the 40th anniversary of the universal declaration on human rights, it is worth mentioning that Egypt was a leader in signing all international agreements and charters on human rights and has been loyal to the obligations arising from them. This stems from our conviction that peace, stability, and development are in the interest of humanity and are the result of human efforts. They also increase our feeling of dignity and deepen our sense of freedom.

Egypt also heeds the issues of childhood and motherhood. For this reason it has set up the "National Council on Childhood and Motherhood," which will hold a national conference in Alexandria in November, in cooperation with UNICEF and a number of its regional offices and with the participation of a number of Egyptian and foreign individuals engaged or interested in the various asects of medical and legal care for children. This conference will seek to gain wide-scale public support for the UN draft agreement on children's rights.

On this occasion I also wish to refer to the establishment of the "Arab Council for Childhood and Development," which works hard to develop better conditions for bringing up the Arab child and methods of control over the implementation of laws concerning children throughout the Arab world. Egypt has been elected deputy chairman of this council. On this occasion, Egypt calls for the quick preparation of an international agreement on children's rights, so that it can be issued next year to coincide with the 20th anniversary of the universal declaration on children's rights.

Mr President: While speaking about social development, I must express appreciation for the constructive contribution of the UN Development Program and UNESCO in the field of cultural development and preserving Egypt's historical and ancient heritage, especially the project to rebuild the immortal Alexandria library as an Egyptian and universal heritage of civilization.

Mr President: The current world economic situation is still a source of deep concern in view of the difficult circumstances facing most states. The effects of these circumstances, however, have been more acute and painful for developing countries in view of their special conditions. The burdens of mounting debts and servicing them, the inappropriate external and internal circumstances resulting from the deterioration of the prices of their basic exports, and the burdens of facing the problems of backwardness have compelled several of

these states to reduce their imports and cancel some development programs, leading to lowered standards of living. These states have also been compelled to adopt austerity policies to such an extent that social and economic dangers have increased, threatening the social peace and political stability of the majority of these states.

Allow me, Mr President, to refer in particular to the grave economic situation in Africa. The effects of the inauspicious international economic environment on the African countries' efforts to achieve economic revival and development have been divisive. The African countries have undertaken unusual efforts to implement the UN program for revival and development for Africa, but there has been no tangible improvement in these countries' economic situations, for reasons beyond their control.

Mr President: The economic problems under the expanding phenomenon of internationalizing economic life, the intertwining of relations and interests, and the increasing mutual economic interdependence among various countries, both rich and poor, demand that the industrial countries address the developing countries' problems using a new concept, based on common interests, fairness, and collective responsibility, so as to prepare for developing economic relations in a healthy manner in the interest of all parties. The future world will have one fate: Either we all advance, or we all go backward.

There is an urgent need now for all countries to embark on comprehensive and serious negotiations aimed at improving the international economic situation. Serious dialogue through multisided cooperation has proven its effectiveness. The results of the seventh UN conference on trade and development is the best evidence of this. It is for this reason that Egypt's delegation to the economic and social council session last July called for holding a special General Assembly session to discuss the international economic and social situation and the means of boosting development and international cooperation. There is a need for formulating a coordinated course of action for the international community.

Mr President: Might is not the best way to establish peace and security. The best way is to eliminate the causes that lead to war and to give weight to political sanity. For this reason, we must extend more support to the United Nations and thus increase its positive contribution. We must work together politically, economically, and socially within a framework of solidarity and joint responsibility so as to bring about a more humane world that would strengthen humanity's belief in itself and its creative ability to make a better future.

Officials Comment on Decision in Tabah Dispute

Ghali on 'Diplomatic Blackmail'

NC0110111088 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0621 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] Cairo, 1 Oct (MENA)—Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has described the diplomatic victory scored by Egypt in the Tabah dispute as a victory for the cause of peace, the principle of settling conflicts peacefully, and the sanctity of international law. In an interview published today in the newspaper AL-AHRAM, Ghali said that those who will study the history of this episode will find hearings of the case and the legal memoranda submitted by both the Egyptians and the Israelis very revealing in terms of the legal and political maneuvering which continued for months until the final ruling was pronounced.

Asked about how he would explain Israel's loss of the case, Ghali said that Israel has been trying to bargain on its withdrawal from Sinai and secure some gains which go beyond the peace agreement signed by both countries. Assisted by the United States, Israel was trying to strike a new deal which Egypt has totally rejected, Ghali said, adding that it became clear that the Israeli side was trying to get a commission in return for completing its withdrawal from Sinai on 22 April 1982.

Ghali told AL-AHRAM that the Israeli approach to the Tabah issue was one of diplomatic blackmail, involving claims, for example, that Israeli forces would find it hard to withdraw to the international borders unless agreement was reached on the Egyptian-Israeli borders in Tabah. Ghali said the Israelis employed sophisticated and diplomatic tactics, rather than vulgar threats that the withdrawal would not take place. The Israelis were using this logic: Egypt is regaining hundreds and hundreds of kilometers of beaches in Sinai, so why not voluntarily give up a mere 500 meters of beach to Israel as a gesture of peace and neighborliness? Ghali said that the Americans supported the Israeli demand to a great extent.

We have been pressured from all sides to give in to Israel under the contention that this is a small price to pay for what we are getting or in view of possible complications in the final phase of the withdrawal. Those who held this view overlooked the fact that no gifts or commissions can be paid from the national soil, even if the area involved is tiny, because this was not a material exchange but a matter of patriotic values.

Dr Ghali attributed the success of the Egyptian diplomacy on Tabah to the determination of the political leadership to reject any concessions before the completion of Israeli withdrawal, to reject compromise as a means of settlement, and to insist on arbitration. Instrumental in this success, he said, was the role played by the Foreign Ministry's legal department in cooperation with a group of Egyptian and foreign experts.

Ghali said it is unlikely that the Tabah ruling will face difficulties in implementation. He expressed his hope that Israel would understand that the settlement of the Tabah issue is the beginning of a new phase in Egyptian-Israeli ties. It is a new phase, he said, in which Israel could make up for the lost opportunities of the past. Israel wasted past opportunities. Will it now grab the opportunity before it is too late? Ghali asked.

The Egyptian state minister for foreign affairs concluded by saying: It would be a mistake to regard the Tabah ruling as a victory for Egyptian diplomacy or a defeat for israeli policy. An objective look at matters shows that the ruling is in its true sense a triumph for law, stability, and peace, Ghali stated.

'Triumph' for Legal Principles

NC0210155888 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has stated that the hotel in Tabah and the tourist area named Nelson are included in Point No 91 and therefore are within the jurisdiction of Egyptian sovereignty. He pointed out that Israel had declared its readiness to withdraw from Tabah and comply with the arbitration panel's verdict, adding that negotiations will take place between Egypt and Israel to follow up on the arbitration panel's ruling. He pointed to secondary problems regarding the estimation of compensation for the Nelson tourist area and the hotel.

Ghali remarked that the arbitration panel's ruling is not a victory of one party over another as much as it is a triumph for the principles of international law and settlement of disputes by peaceful means. Ghali said disputes must be settled through dialogue and legal international means.

Sidqi on Implementing Ruling

NC0110130388 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1108 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] Cairo, 1 Oct (MENA)—Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi has announced that contacts have begun between Egypt and Israel on implementing the ruling in favor of Egypt in the Tabah dispute. Sidqi said that Egypt is committed to implementing the ruling in complete good will, adding that we expect a similar attitude from the Israelis within the 3-week period mentioned in the arbitration decision. Sidqi noted that Egypt has declared through its foreign minister and its minister of state for foreign affairs that it is abiding by the ruling.

Negotiations to implement the ruling are to be held by senior experts on both sides, Sidqi said. He spoke to journalists after he attended a ceremony held by the National Center for Judicial Studies to mark the graduation of a new class of military court judges. He added that Egypt does not have any reservations regarding the venue for talks on the implementation of the Tabah ruling.

Police Report Deputy Wounded in 'Vendetta'

NC0110134488 Paris AFP in English 1314 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] Cairo, Oct 1 (AFP)—Yahya 'Uthman Kilani, a deputy and member of Egypt's ruling National Democratic Party, was shot and seriously wounded in a vendetta, police reported Saturday. Three people were arrested after the attack, which took place Friday as the deputy for Dayrut, Upper Egypt, was sitting in front of his house, police said. Family blood feuds are common in southern Egypt.

Libya

Diplomatic Relations Restored With Chad

LD0310111288 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1050 GMT 03 Oct 88

[Text] Tripoli, 3 Oct (JANA)—The following communique was issued today in both Tripoli and Ndjamena:

Due to their concern to establish relations of good neighborliness and cooperation between them and due to their sincere will to create an atmosphere suitable for dialogue and for coalescing the historical relations between the two countries and peoples, the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Republic of Chad have decided today to restore their diplomatic relations at the highest level immediately. The two countries have nominated their delegates and their offices (the People's Bureau—Embassy) will be opened in the two countries before 30 October 1988.

Socialist Peoples's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Republic of Chad express their firm wish to:

Respect the cease-fire signed on 11 September 1987.

Deal with their regional disagreement in a peaceful way, within the framework of respecting the United Nations Charter and the OAU [Organization of African Unity] and its Resolution No 174 adopted by the 24th OAU summit and by cooperating with the OAU special committee in a responsible and understanding spirit.

The two countries decided to broadcast this communique simultaneously from Tripoli, Ndjamena, and Lome and to deposit a copy of this document with the OAU.

FRG Foreign Ministry Names New Ambassador

LD3009131988 Hamburg DPA in German 1130 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] Bonn (DPA)—The Federal Republic will in the future again be represented by an ambassador in Libya. The Foreign Ministry confirmed today that Juergen Hellner, previous chief of mission in Qatar, will go to Tripoli next week as ambassador. Since 1986 Bonn has been represented there only by a charge d'affaires. Two years ago the EEC countries decided to downgrade diplomatic relations to the Middle East country because Libya was suspected of involvement in terrorist attacks in Europe.

Sending an ambassador from Bonn again is generally seen as a "political signal" to Libya's revolutionary leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, who has become a

talking point in recent months because of his internal reforms and who has drastically curtailed activities of the so-called "revolutionary committees" abroad.

After Great Britain, Libya is the most important oil supplier for the Federal Republic and meets approxmately 15 percent of German oil imports. At the same time, with annual purchases worth DM1 billion (1986 and 1987), Libya is one of the major buyers of German products in the Arab world.

Sudan

Talks With Uganda Conclude; Accords Signed

JN2909152888 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1428 GMT 29 Sep 88

[Text] Khartoum, 29 Sep (SUNA)—On the conclusion of their common talks which ended here yesterday, the Sudanese and Ugandan sides signed three accords on customs, scientific and cultural affairs, and information relations. In a statement to the newspaper AL-SUDANI published here today, General 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil, retired, minister of defense and head of the Sudanese delegation to the talks, explained that the talks dealt extensively with the security situation. He said that both sides agreed to form joint border committees to coordinate on the Sudanese-Ugandan border regions to solve any problems arising in these regions. The round of talks between the two sides began recently in Uganda. The talks were continued here to achieve joint agreements.

Communique on Talks Issued

LD2909220488 Khartoum SUNA in English 1710 GMT 29 Sep 88

[Text] Khartoum, Sept 29 (SUNA)—The ministerial joint commission between Sudan and Uganda today issued a joint communique following the winding up of its second meeting held here [words indistinct]. The two sides discussed matters concerning bilateral cooperation in the fields of security, trade, customs, health, transport, telecommunication and wild life conservation, the communique said. The two parties signed agreements on cooperation in the fields of customs, health and culture the communique said adding that in the field of trade the two sides agreed to implement the barter trade protocol signed in Jinja in Oct. 1987 by exchanging commodities available as soon as possible.

In the field of transport, the two sides agreed to cooperate in surface transport and airlink, the communique explained. The communique said that on wildlife conservation the Sudanese side presented a draft proposal concerning wild life conservation and poaching in the two countries. The proposal will be studied by the Ugandan side and will be discussed in the next meeting, the communique concluded.

Al-Mirghani, Al-Mahdi Welcome Ugandan Initiative

JN0110113588 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1042 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] Khartoum, 1 Oct (SUNA)—Ahmad al-Mirghani, chairman of the State Council, welcomed in press statements yesterday Ugandan President Yoweri Huseveni's initiative to hold negotiations between the government and the John Garang movement. Al-Mirghani said this a good initiative. All efforts to stop the bloodshed in the south are welcomed and required so that the country's resources will be used for Sudan's development and unity.

On the other hand, Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi welcomed the initiative, affirming that Kampala is the suitable venue for the dialogue. He also affirmed that peace is the best solution to this war. The Ugandan president had sent a message to the Sudanese Government recently, affirming Garang's readiness to hold unconditional dialogue with the Sudanese Government to reach a comprehensive and just solution to the southern problem.

In another development, Joseph Lago, a southern politician, announced that he will continue his efforts with Garang's movement and its parties in the country to achieve peace. He noted that he will try to contact Garang in his headquarters after he returns from Sudan. In a statement to today's AL-SUDANI, Lago said that his efforts with the Garang movement resulted in diminishing its military activities between May and August. He added that he does not ask the two parties to relinquish their viewpoints, but to abandon them for the appropriate time because the citizens' economic and security tribulation now requires a cease-fire. He welcomed the movement's agreement to hold negotiations with the government. He said the Sudanese want peace, and peace can be achieved.

Thanks Expressed to Nigeria for Stand on SPLA

JN0210101488 Khartoum SUNA in English 0920 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] Khartoum, Oct 2 (SUNA)—The Foreign Ministry has expressed Sudan's thanks and gratitudes to Nigeria for refusing to provide any material or political assistance to the rebel movement (The Sudan People's Liberation Army) SPLA's delegation which visited Nigeria last month. The State Minister at the Foreign Ministry Taj al-Sirr Mohammad Salih told daily AL-AYYAM today that the move of the Nigerian Government not to give the SPLA an official reception shows Lagos to be fully committed to the regional and international charters [word indistinct] to intervene in the domestic affairs of other states. AL-AYYAM has reported at the end of last month that Lagos Government has refused to officially receive the SPLA or promise it any military or political support.

Defense Minister on Domestic, Foreign Affairs

JN0210103488 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0915 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] Doha, 2 Oct (WAKH)—Sudanese Defense Minister General 'Abd al-Majid Hamid has announced he will visit a number of GCC member states as well as Iraq early this month. He voiced Sudan's appreciation for the support and backing provided by the GCC member states to help it overcome the effects of the floods that have recently plagued its territory. In an interview with the newspaper AL-RAYAH published today, the Sudanese minister paid tribute to the coordination and cooperation currently existing among the GCC member states and described it as a prelude to Arab unity. He added: Whenever inter-Arab coordination and cooperation expand, the prospects of achieving total unity appear.

On the developments of the situation in the wake of the cease-fire in the Iraq-Iran war and the beginning of negotiations between the two sides, the Sudanese defense minister expressed his country's hope that the cease-fire and the beginning of negotiations will be a prelude to the attainment of an irreversible and comprehensive peace, and not only a truce, so as to help bring peace and stability to the region.

Regarding the current situation in his country and especially the southern Sudan problem, the Sudanese minister affirmed that the Sudanese Government will continue to work seriously to establish peace in southern Sudan and resolve the problem there democratically and through dialogue.

The minister described his country's relations with Ethiopia as good. He voiced Sudan's eagerness to maintain ties based on good neighborliness and noninterference in the internal affairs of any of its neighbors. He also stressed the need to protect the security of the Red Sea region through cooperation and coordination among its littoral states.

The Sudanese minister denied the existence of any unity agreement between his country and Libya and said: Had such an agreement existed, it would have been announced officially after securing the approval of the constitutional Sudanese institutions.

Bahrain

FRG Defense Official Meets Defense Minister

JN2909111588 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0845 GMT 29 Sep 88

[Text] Manama, 29 Sep (WAKH)—Staff Major General Shaykh Khalifah ibn Ahmad Al Khalifah, defense minister and deputy commander in chief of the Bahrain Defense Force, today met with Dr Lothar Ruehle, FRG state secretary in the Defense Ministry, who is currently visiting Bahrain. During the meeting, they reviewed bilateral relations. The meeting was attended by Staff Brigadier General Shaykh 'Abdallah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, chief of staff, and FRG Ambassador to Bahrain Dr Brend Wulffen. The FRG Defense Ministry undersecretary arrived in Manama yesterday on a visit to Bahrain lasting several days.

Visits Amir

JN3009084688 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0730 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] Manama, 30 Sep (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, received here this morning Dr Lothar Ruehle, FRG state secretary in the Defense Ministry, and his delegation currently visiting Bahrain. The meeting was attended by Staff Brigadier Genral Shaykh 'Abdallah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, chief of staff of the Defense Force; and Dr Brend Wulffen, FRG Ambassador to Bahrain.

Concludes Visit

JN3009140088 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1330 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] Manama, 30 Sep (WAKH)—Dr Lothar Ruehle, FRG state secretary in the Defense Ministry, left Manama today following a 3-day visit to Bahrain. During the visit, the FRG official met with Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah. He also held talks with senior officials in the Bahraini Defense Force. The talks dealt with bilateral relations.

Saudi Arabia

4 Nationals Executed for 'Conspiring With Iran'

LD3009120588 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1130 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Excerpts] Al-Dammam, 30 Sep (SPA)—The Interior Ministry has announced that today, Friday, four Saudi nationals were executed for committing a number of crimes. The statement issued by the Interior Ministry in this regard said that those wrong-doers rejected their religion, homeland, and nation and befriended a hostile foreign regime—Iran. They implemented the plans of that regime and its evil aims to destroy installations of this country, shake their country's economy, kill people—a matter forbidden by God, except in cases where killing is just—and spread chaos and fear among the peaceful people. In its statement, the Interior Ministry reaffirmed the concern of the government of the custodian of the two holy mosques—may God protect him—to insure security, curb criminals, and carry out God's rulings against them. The statement also stressed that this is the punishment against all those who violate God's rulings and spread corruption on earth. The statement of the Interior Ministry follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted]

The following persons perpetrated a number of crimes: Muhammad ibn 'Ali ibn Muhammad al-Qarrus, a Saudi national; 'Ali ibn 'Abdallah ibn 'Ali al-Khatim, a Saudi national; Azhar ibn 'Ali ibn 'Ali al-Hajjaj, a Saudi national; and Khalid ibn 'Abd al-Hamid ibn Hasan al-'Alaq, a Saudi national.

Their crimes include:

1. Conspiring with Iran against the safety of their homeland and citizens, and undergoing training in the use of weapons and explosives to use them to destroy economic installations, destabilize security, and spread chaos.

2. Smuggling quantities—approximating 14 kg—of C4 high explosives and using some of it to destroy some storage tanks belonging to Al-Sadaf Petrochemicals Company in Al-Jubayl and hiding the rest on a farm and in a graveyard with the intention to use them in the future.

3. Betraying their religion and homeland and conspiring against economic installations and innocent lives.

4. After the arrest of Muhammad ibn 'Ali ibn Muhammad al-Qarrus, the others fled and disappeared. When security officers pursued them and stopped a car on 20 July 1988 to ascertain the identity of its owners, those in the car started to fire pistols and wounded one of the security officers—First Lieutenant 'Ali Musa al-Rabi'—who later died of his injuries. They then fled and took refuge in a building in Al-Qatif, and continued to fire until they were arrested. Those involved were: 'Ali ibn 'Abdallah al-Khatim, Azhar ibn 'Ali al-Hajjaj, and Khalid ibn 'Abd al-Hamid ibn Hasan al-'Alaq. When questioned, they admitted to all the crimes they had committed and those they had intended to commit, if they had not been arrested. A responsible source at the Interior Ministry previously made a statement about this incident on 22 July 1988 through the information apparatus.

Those wrong-doers turned their backs on and denied their religion, homeland, and people and befriended a hostile foreign regime—Iran. They implemented that regime's plans and its evil aims to destroy installations of this country, shake their country's economy, kill people—a matter forbidden by God, except in cases where

killing is justified—and spread chaos and fear among the peaceful people. But God's will and kindness and the vigilance of the security organs exposed them and exposed their shame.

They were referred to the shari'a court and two shari'a verdicts were issued under No 1 S/KH dated 4 September 1988 and 2 S/KH dated 5 September 1988. The verdicts said that they had clearly admitted their intentions to commit crimes of sabotage and destroy installations with the help of foreign quarters, that they had been trained in the use of weapons and means of sabotage, that they had brought explosives into the Kingdom, and that they had used some of these explosives and hidden the rest for later use. 'Ali ibn 'Abdallah ibn 'Ali al-Khatim, Azhar ibn 'Ali al-Hajjaj, Khalid ibn 'Abd al-Hamid ibn Hasan al-'Alaq also admitted to killing a security officer. It became apparent that the aim of all of them was to carry out sabotage, spread chaos, intimidate Muslims, and help the enemy of Muslims against the Muslims.

Therefore they were sentenced to execution by beheading, in view of the magnitude of their corruption and the repulsiveness of what they had done. The two shari'a verdicts were endorsed by the appeal body's decisions: No 27 Q.M. dated 7 September 1988 and No 28 Q.M. dated 13 September 1988 and ratified by decisions of the Higher Judicial Council's permanent membership in decision No 23/2 dated 12 September 1988 and No 28/2 dated 14 September 1988.

Two royal decrees—No 1514/S dated 14 September 1988 and No 1739/S dated 19 September 1988- were issued to carry out the shari'a verdicts referred to above. The legal decision against them was carried out today, Friday, 30 September 1988 in the city of Al-Dammam.

The Interior Ministry announces this in order to affirm the concern of the government of the custodian of the Two Holy Mosques to make security prevail, curb criminals, and carry out God's rulings against them. And it affirms that this is the reward of the one who transgresses the limits ordained by God and strives to do mischief on earth. And God is the best guide.

Foreign Minister Delivers King Fahd Speech to UN

LD0110165688 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0625 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Excerpts] New York, 1 October 1988, (SPA)—The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, stressed the commitment of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the principles and aims of the UN and the faith of the Kingdom in the possibilities of achieving peace, security, and international stability—as well as the development of international cooperation in the political and economic fields—through international cooperation.

King Fahd, may God protect him, in a historic speech to the 43d session of the UN General Assembly, delivered on his behalf by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal Al Sa'ud, the foreign minister, said: The ability of the UN to continue to a large extent depends on its ability to find efficient solutions to the problems threatening international security and peace.

In his speech to the international delegations participating in the UN General Assembly meetings, the servant of the two holy places reviewed the current international situation and pointed out the satisfaction of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with the detente in international relations.[passage omitted]

The custodian of the two holy mosques praised the ceasefire agreement between Iraq and Iran and pointed out that the Kingdom took the initiative to express deep satisfaction with the agreement and its aspiration to serve as a starting point for the establishment of a durable and comprehensive peace under the umbrella of which all the states and peoples of the region would benefit from security, peace, and constructive cooperation. He pointed out that when it was adopted, Iraq expressed its immediate readiness for a ceasefire.

He also said: This confirms the credibility of the Iraqi government in its calls for peace and efforts to achieve it, and we hope that the acceptance by Iran of a ceasefire and its entry into the direct negotiations will signal a change in the course of its policy in the region and will contribute to the call for goodness, love, and fraternity—the aims that constitute the essence of the true message of Islam.

The custodian of the two holy mosques reiterated the Kingdom's welcome of the Soviet decision to withdraw from Afghanistan and he expressed hope that the withdrawal would be completed according to the agreed upon plan and that all the difficulties obstructing the realization of total political and economic stability within Afghanistan and the establishment of a system reflecting the will of its Muslim combatant [al-mujahid] people would be removed.

He declared that the Kingdom condemned the violations of Pakistani airspace by the Kabul regime and that it renewed its appreciation for the great humanitarian role that the government and people of Pakistan have played and continue to play by hosting four million Afghans who were now looking forward to returning to their homes. He also praised the role played by the late president Ziaul Haq who worked hard to serve his country, support Afghan rights, and back the causes of the Islamic world.

The custodian of the two holy mosques expressed appreciation for the efforts of His Majesty King Hassan II and His Excellency President Bendjedid and the wisdom and far-sightedness they had shown to settle matters and bring their viewpoints on the western Sahara issue closer together. [passage omitted]

The custodian of the two holy mosques focused on the Palestinian issue and described it as the most dangerous problem threatening international detente and the worst threat facing regional security and world peace. He said: It is regrettable that this problem has moved no closer to a solution in one way or another.

He added: The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has always believed that no real peace can be achieved in the Middle East as long as no just and lasting solution is found to the Palestinian issue—at the core of the conflict in the region. Those who imagine that time will turn the issue into a fait accompli seem to forget that the rights of the peoples in their (? homelands) are not abolished by time and are not negated by oblivion. [passage omitted]

Discussing the Palestinian cause, the custodian of the two holy mosques added: After being patient for 40 years or more without a glimmer of hope for just peace, the Palestinians have not found anything apart from the stones of their land to express their rights and their rejection of Israeli oppression. [passage omitted]

The custodian of the two holy mosques said: If the Palestinian cause is our first cause, the question of Holy Jerusalem constitutes, in our view, the core of the Palestinian problem. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia reiterates, in this respect, its emphasis on the necessity to safeguard the Islamic and Arab character of Jerusalem and the return of the holy city to Arab sovereignty so that it would become, once again, the meeting point of the believers from all the revealed religions and an asylum for tolerance and coexistence among the different religions.

King Fahd, may God protect him, expressed hope that God would bring success to the people of Lebanon by providing the suitable climate for holding free and impartial elections, based on the will of the Lebanese people and on the existing constitutional formula so that it would be possible to elect a president who works to unite the world and protect the unity and independence of the Lebanese territory and people. This would enable Lebanon to chase away the spectre of division that has begun to threaten Lebanon and would hamper the continuous attempts of Israel to exploit such circumstances and devote its efforts to the practice of its enmity and its occupation of Lebanese territory.

The custodian of the two holy mosques pointed out the deterioration of the economic situation of the developing states as a result of the continuing decreases in the price of their exports of basic goods, the increase in the prices of their imports of manufactured goods, and the increase in their debt burden that has begun to really threaten the development of these states.

The custodian of the two holy mosques also urged that the measures to alleviate the international debt burden, with which many poor developing countries are encumbered, take a positive direction in the meetings held in Berlin between the IMF and the World Bank. [passage omitted]

The custodian of the two holy mosques said that the possession of nuclear weapons did not comply with the rules of international conduct and international agreements and that the refusal of some countries, such as Israel, to sign and join the treaty on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons posed a serious threat to peace and security in the world—particularly in light of the increasing Israeli military and nuclear capabilities—to such an extent that they are now regarded as a direct threat to the region's peace and security.

The custodian of the two holy mosques also discussed terrorism, indicating that the Kingdom had contributed fully in efforts to combat this phenonemon with the decision of the body of senior ulema [theologians] to apply the death penalty against terrorists, saboteurs, and those who do mischief on earth. He added that this decision had received the support of the ulema, the imams, the experts of religious law, and senior legal councilors in the Islamic world.

The dearly beloved king also expressed the Kingdom's pride in belonging to the GCC which was established according to and in compliance with the charters and resolutions of the League of Arab States and the Islamic Conference Organisation and also in line with the principles of the Nonaligned Movement and the UN Charter.

The custodian of the two holy mosques said that while the GCC expressed the free will of its member-states and cooperation between them within the framework of a common awareness of their national interests, in reality it did not constitute a block against anyone but that it was one of the positive factors for stability in the region. He lauded the effective and constructive role played by the Council in achieving political, economic, security, social, and cultural cooperation among its member-states.

The custodian of the two holy mosques concluded his speech by saying: It is high time we all adapt our thinking to make it compatible with the reality of our times and admit that all the efforts we are making to give man a better life will remain in vain if a just and lasting peace remains beyond our reach.

Yemen Arab Republic

'Final Round' of Talks With Sudanese Delegation

JN2709141488 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Sep 88

[Text] The final round of talks between our country and fraternal Sudan was held at the Prime Ministry today under Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and Standing Committee member, and Brother al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, chairman of the Sudanese Council of Ministers. At the beginning of the session, 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani delivered a speech:

In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate. Brother al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and members of the delegation: Peace and God's blessings be upon you. We have been pleased by your presence among us and by our meetings with you. We thank you for participating in the joys of the YAR people on the anniversary of the 26 September revolution. Our two delegations held talks on many issues. We hope the talks will be a basis for and a continuation of the close relations between our two fraternal countries. With God's help, we will implement what we have agreed upon. The brothers who participated in these talks did their best and set dates for the implementation of the agreements.

I promise you that we will do our best to implement what we have agreed upon. We are confident of implementation in the same spirit that prevailed in the talks. Once again, please let me thank you for your participation in our celebrations, and we hope that the private and official talks will be a basis for promoting and strengthening the existing relations between our two fraternal peoples. You are welcome.

Then the Sudanese prime minister delivered a speech:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, members of the fraternal Yemeni delegation: I and my colleagues repeat our thanks to you for your hospitality and for the opportunity you provided for us to discuss bilateral issues as well as regional and Arab issues and problems in a fruitful and cordial way, God be praised.

I reiterate my congratulations on the 26 September revolution, which has initiated Yemen into a new age. You have been able to continue to make sacrifices effectively to achieve stability for the true Yemeni people and to assign them a new role. The Yemeni people have played a genuine and ancient role in the history of this region. We warmly congratulate you on this progress, and we are optimistic that you will be a prominent force in this region. We hope that your country will continue its efforts and activities.

We also hope that we will be able to promote our bilateral relations in all the areas we have discussed and to cooperate effectively in areas of construction, God willing, in light of the age's circumstances. We appreciate [words indistinct] many problems in the Arab arena, and we hope we will succeed in resolving them in the Arab nation's interest, especially the ordeal from which fraternal Lebanon is suffering so much. We hope that all of us will cooperate to enable Lebanon to overcome these circumstamnces unified, free, and without partition so that it can confront the enemy, which wants these developments to lead to partition, harm this nation, and undermine its present and future.

We hope we will succeed in cooperating in all areas, remove all obstacles from our pan-Arab and Islamic march to meet our people's aspirations, and move from the present state of affairs into a better life. Through you, I would like to thank the fraternal Yemeni people, who expressed amity and love toward us wherever we went. This stresses our close relations. We thank them all as well as the YAR people and government, hoping that we will begin a successful, fruitful cooperation. Peace be upon you.

Then the YAR and Sudanese sides reviewed the results of the fraternal meetings between the two sides to promote bilateral relations as well as Arab and international issues of common interest.

The final session of the talks was attended on our country's side by Brothers Dr 'Abd al-Karim 'Ali al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and Standing Committee member; Dr 'Abd al-Wahhab Mahmud 'Abd al-Hamid, minister of economy, supply, and trade; Muhammad al-Khadim al-Wajih, minister of telecommunications, Standing Committee member, and head of the honor mission; Ahmad Muhammad al-Anisi, minister of education and chairman of the general body of the scientific institutions; Ahmad Muhammad Luqman, minister of labor and social affairs and Standing Committee member; Hasan Ahmad al-Lawzi, minister of information and culture and Standing Committee member; Qasim al-Mu'ayyad, YAR ambassador to Sudan; Muhammad Sa'id, director of the prime minister's office; and Abdallah al-Jayfi, Education Ministry undersecretary and head of the YAR technical team.

The talks were attended on the Sudanese side by Dr Husayn Sulayman Abu Salih, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Shaykh Mahjub, minister of higher education and scientific research; Dr Ibrahim al-Amin, minister of state for expatriates affairs; Sayyid Ahmad al-Hardalu, Sudan's ambassador in Sanaa; and 'Umar 'Ali 'Umar, Foreign Trade Ministry undersecretary and head of the Sudanese technical team.

Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and Standing Committee member, and Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, chairman of the Sudanese Council of Ministers, signed the minutes of the talks, which the two sides held 24-27 September. The two sides held several meetings in an atmosphere of brotherhood and understanding to discuss Arab and international issues of common interest. The two sides's viewpoints were identical.

The two sides also reviewed bilateral relations and ways to promote them. They stressed the need to increase and promote cooperation between the two fraternal countries in various areas. They agreed to cooperate and exchange expertise and information in the agricultural area. They agreed in principle to establish a joint agricultural project after conducting a feasibility study as soon as possible. The two sides agreed to study the possibility of establishing a joint Yemeni-Sudanese bank. The Sudanese side expressed readiness to study the possibility of refining Yemeni petroleum within the framework of

bilateral agreements. The two sides also stressed their desire to exchange trade and economic information and promote trade exchanges between the two countries.

The minutes also stipulate the establishemnt of joint cooperative projects as part of efforts to promote cooperation in this area as well as cooperation in judiciary; education; higher education; media; culture; labor and social affairs; health; civil service; and administrative reforms in the Interior Ministry, police, and civil aviation.

The Sudanese side praised the fraternal position of our country—leadership, government, and people—for its support for fraternal Sudan in confronting the effects of floods in Sudan. It also expressed thanks to the YAR side for the hospitality accorded to the Sudanese delegation during the visit. The talks ended with the two sides praising treatment of both countries' citizens by the competent authorities in the two countries, a fact that reflects the depth of brotherly ties and the spirit of understanding between the two fraternal peoples.

Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and Standing Committee member, received his brother, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, before the start of the final talks. During the meeting, they reviewed a number of issues pertaining to bilateral relations and Arab and international issues.

Press Statement on Talks

JN2809122088 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1035 GMT 28 Sep 88

[Text] Sanaa, 28 Sep (SUNA)—A Sudanese-YAR press statement was issued here yesterday at the end of Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's 4-day visit to the YAR. The statement says that the two sides' talks dealt with ways to promote bilateral economic, educational, trade, and cultural relations in addition to [word indistinct] issues of mutual interest. The two sides also decided that the joint ministerial committee between the two countries will hold its first meeting in Khartoum in March next year. The statement emphasizes the identity of viewpoints between the two countries on Arab, Islamic, regional, and international issues that were discussed during the talks.

The YAR side reiterated its solidarity with the Sudanese Government and people for the peaceful settlement of the southern Sudanese problem. The statement says that the session of talks was chaired by the two countries' prime ministers, and that Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi signed the minutes of the talks while YAR Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani signed them for his country.

The statement also notes that the two sides expressed their satisfaction with the continued development of the two countries relations in the political, economic, trade, agricultural, and cultural fields, and agreed on ways to promote these relations. In this respect, the two sides agreed to hold the fifth session of the joint ministerial committee in Khartoum in March next year.

The statement adds that the Sudanese side briefed the YAR side on the Sudanese national reconciliation government's efforts and plans to tackle the consequences of the heavy rainfall and floods that had hit the country, as well as on the Sudanese Government's efforts to reconstruct projects that had been destroyed. The statement pointed out that the YAR side praised the Sudanese Government's efforts and voiced its solidarity with Sudan in its attempts to settle its crises.

Foreign Minister Confers With Perez de Cuellar

JN0110102688 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1010 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] New York, 1 Oct (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar at the United Nations today. In a statement to journalists after the meeting, Tariq 'Aziz said the talks dealt with issues related to the direct talks session between Iraq and Iran to be held at the United Nations later today. He described the meeting as constructive and cordial. Official sources expected the direct talks session between Iraq and Iran to begin at 1800 hours New York time.

Peace 'Package Deal' Proposed

JN0110180888 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Huda Tawfiq dispatch from New York]

[Text] I have learned that the UN secretary general proposed to the Iranian and Iraqi foreign ministers a package deal to end the impasse in the negotiations. The deal takes into consideration Iraq's demand for free navigation in the Gulf without any Iranian objection or search and Iran's demand for the withdrawal of the warring forces to the international borders.

We have learned that the secretary general's proposals demand guaranteed and obligatory pledges to safeguard free navigation in the Gulf and to refrain from searching ships. The proposals also demand withdrawal within a short period. The issue of Shatt al-'Arab waterway will enjoy priority consideration over issues that are presented for discussion according to point four of the UN resolution, provided both sides agree on an exchange of prisoners of war. We have learned that the UN secretary general's proposals enjoy the approval of the big five, who reiterated support for the secretary general's efforts and asked the two sides to show flexibility and offer concessions.

Asked after his meeting with the secretary general if there was a breakthrough, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz said: We do not know the Iranian position yet. As for Veleyati, he emphasized the need to implement Resolution No 598 and his government's full cooperation in this regard. The situation will be made clear at tonight's meeting. It will also be clear if there is a breakthrough allowing the negotiations to resume in Geneva. The big five are stressing the importance of ensuring the cease-fire which the big powers are exploiting to extend bridges with Tehran.

Yesterday, the French foreign minister met with the Iranian and Iraqi foreign ministers just before the expiry of the term of the French presidency of the UN Security Council.

Gulf Negotiations Resume in New York 2 Oct

JN0210091588 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0715 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] New York, 2 Oct (INA)—The Iraqi and Iranian sides held a face-to-face direct negotiations session that lasted for 4 and ½ hours at the UN headquarters last night in the presence of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. The Iraqi side to the negotiations session was led by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; while Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati headed the Iranian side to the negotiations.

The two sides, who arrived at the UN headquarters within minutes of each other, made no statements to reporters upon arrival and headed for a conference hall that had been prepared for the negotiations where Javier Perez de Cuellar and his aides, including Jan Eliasson, his special representative in the negotiations and Sweden's UN representative, were waiting for them. The INA correspondent in New York said that the Iraqi and Iranian delegations entered the conference hall simultaneously from two opposite doors.

The Iraqi-Iranian direct negotiations session was adjourned at 0430 Baghdad time [0130 GMT] today. However, the two sides will hold separate consultations with the UN secretary general tomorrow. Tariq 'Aziz, who left the UN building first, told reporters that he will leave comments and statements on the negotiations session to the UN secretary general. However, he said: If the Iranian foreign minister makes statements that reflect his particular interpretation of the session, I will talk to you at a later time.

In a related development, an official spokesman for the Iraqi delegation told the INA correspondent in New York that the negotiations are still in their first phase. He added that there have been no developments in the Iranian stand, which, since 25 August and up to date, has hindered the progress of the negotiations. On the other hand, the UN secretary general's office said that no arrangements have been made for holding another negotiations session in New York. The office officials added that the UN secretary general will continue his contacts with the two sides tomorrow, Monday.

President Holds Official Talks With King Husayn

JN0210184788 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1810 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 2 Oct (INA)—A round of official talks was held here today between Iraq and Jordan. The Iraqi side was led by President Saddam Husayn and the fraternal Jordanian side was led by His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal. The talks dealt with the close fraternal relations between the two countries as well as the situation in the Arab region in general. The talks were attended on the Iraqi side by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief

of the Armed Forces and defense minister; Latif Nusayyif Jasim, culture and information minister and acting foreign minister; Husayn Kamil, minister of industry and military industrialization; the president's secretary; and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman.

On the Jordanian side, the talks were attended by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Royal Hashemite Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim, Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, Army Commander Al-Sharif Zayd ibn Hakir, and the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad. President Saddam Husayn gave a dinner banquet in honor of his brother His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal. It was attended by the members of both delegations. His Majesty King Husayn arrived here this afternoon on a visit to Iraq. His majesty was accorded an official reception. President Saddam Husayn was at the head of those who received him [passage omitted]

King Visits Military Exhibition

JN0310091488 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 3 Oct 88 pp 1, 21

[Excerpts] Baghdad, (PETRA)—The Jordanian side under His Majesty King Husayn and the Iraqi side under His Excellency President Saddam Husayn held a round of official talks in Baghdad yesterday. The talks dealt with the developments of the situation in the Arabian Gulf area, efforts to establish peace in that area, the coordination of Arab efforts in the current stage in the Middle East, and bilateral relations. [passage omitted]

His Excellency President Saddam Husayn hosted a dinner banquet to honor his majesty the king. It was attended by the members of the two delegations.

Accompanied by His Excellency President Saddam Husayn, his majesty the king visited the Al-Nasr exhibition held by the Military Industrialization Organization at the Ministry of Industry and Military Industrialization. During a tour of the exhibition stands, President Saddam Husayn briefed his majesty the king on the Iraqi military industries. Husayn Kamil Hasan, minister of industry and military industrialization, and Iraqi experts working at the organization explained in detail the nature, efficiency, and performance of products, as well as the production rate of each item and the great development of particular products.

At the conclusion of the visit, His Majesty King Husayn made a statement to an INA correspondent in which he said: I am extremely happy and satisfied with the achievements I have seen—the product of wise leadership and the sincerity and great effort of youth.

His majesty said: I am greatly satisfied that we, in fraternal Iraq and the Arab homeland, have managed to reach this splendid level of military and civilian industries which compare with those of the most advanced states of the world. Consequently, this gives us great hope to find that our needs are covered by the youth of our homeland. Undoubtedly, this is the result of rehabilitating and preparing youth. [passage omitted]

Husayn Departs 2 Oct

NC0210222488 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2145 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 2 Oct (INA)—King Husayn ibn Talal of Jordan left Baghdad this evening at the conclusion of a 1-day visit to Iraq. [passage omitted]

AL-THAWRAH Cited on Call for 'Vigilance'

JN3009084088 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0545 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Sep (INA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH says Iraq has destroyed the aggression's conspiracy and buried the yellow Khomeyniite wind. However, the Iraqi victories have infuriated imperialist and Zionist circles and driven them insane. In an editorial today, the newspaper, mouthpiece of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, adds that Iraq will remain at the highest degree of vigilance, caution, and awareness because the Zionist and imperialist circles may attempt to save their defeated allies in Tehran or avenge the latter's grave defeat in war. The paper affirms that the proud Iraqis no longer fear anyone after destroying the aggression's conspiracy. Despite its great victory, Iraq continues to adhere to its principled, consistent policy on the issue of ending the war and bringing about a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace. Moreover, Iraq will continue to maintain its balance.

AL-THAWRAH adds: In addition to the splendid victory, the Zionist and imperialist circles were annoyed by the new Iraqi man. This advanced, creative, and capable man has gone beyond the boundaries that these circles had determined for Iraq. The enemies greatly belittled Iraq's resources and abilities as well as the capabilities of its great people. They also ignored the fact that Iraq is right and that the time of invasion, expansion, and the establishment of empires has gone forever. The last round of war proved that Iraq has militarily decided the war in its favor and that Iran has been defeated and failed to realize any of its objectives.

AL-THAWRAH affirms that throughout 8 years of total and vicious war, Iraq's principles were not shaken and Iraq did not relinquish its freedom and independent willpower despite the fierce conspiracy and intrigues of both its enemies and the enemies of the Arab nation. Moreover, Iraq's historic leadership believed that the Iraqi people with their pan-Arab, cultural, and historic stand as well as their creative abilities and absolute faith in their just cause are the basic guarantors of realizing victory, destroying the aggression's conspiracy, and foiling the Iranian regime's expansionist program.

INA Editor on Al-Asad's 'Collusion' in Lebanon

JN2909175688 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1710 GMT 29 Sep 88

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Sep (INA)—The INA political editor has said that the deal that Hafiz al-Asad concluded with foreign parties to divide influence in Lebanon, decide its political future, destroy its constitution, and encroach on its sovereignty is a precedent unique in Arab political history. The political editor added in a commentary today that according to the prevailing norms a country can spread its influence indirectly or through economic hegemony, but this regime interfered in Lebanon's affairs through collusion with the Zionist entity and some American quarters and encroached on the sovereignty of another Arab country.

The INA political editor noted that after the 13-year war that has shaken Lebanon, this ruler is no longer ashamed of announcing an agreement with a foreign side, which is hostile to the Arabs, to decide the fate of Lebanon. Thus, he embarked on a precedent in Arab political life that should be exposed and condemned as his series of crimes against higher Arab interests, the Lebanese people, and the Palestinian cause were exposed and condemned. The INA editor stressed that Hafiz al-Asad's cards have expired after the enemies of the nation have used him as a lackey in all the plots and intrigues concocted against the Arab nation.

The INA editor affirmed that Hafiz al-Asad's forces in Lebanon have undermined this people's unity, adherence to their values, sovereignty, and rejection of hegemony and interference in their affairs. The editor said: As Hafiz al-Asad emerged from his dilemma against Iraq in the Iraq-Iran war crowned with shame and disgrace, he will emerge from his dilemma in Lebanon after he drowns in the spit of history.

Soviets Say Shevardnadze May Visit Next Month
TA0210075688 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 2 Oct 88 p 1

[Report from the United States by Dalya Shehori]

[Text] Washington—USSR Foreign Minister Edward Shevardnadze is scheduled to leave for the Middle East next month. Israel may be included in his itinerary. This was reported yesterday by Soviet officials to Israeli elements in Washington.

According to the officials, Moscow is planning a serious political effort in the Middle East after the elections in Israel and the United States.

Legation in Poland Becomes 'Independent' of Dutch
TA3009172088 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] The Israeli legation in Poland is currently being transformed from a section in the Dutch Embassy into an independent representation. Ambassador Mordekhay Paltzur will remove the Dutch emblem from the legation's door, and will replace it with the Israeli emblem.

Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that in the wake of an agreement between the two countries, the Israeli interests office, which had so far operated under the aegis of the Dutch Embassy in Warsaw, has now become an independent diplomatic representation. Although this does not entail the upgrading of diplomatic relations, this move denotes a significant change in bilateral relations.

Our political correspondent points out that Foreign Ministry Director General Avraham Tamir arrived in Warsaw this afternoon to hold talks with his Polish counterparts. Both Tamir and the charge d'affaires in the Dutch Embassy in Poland are attending the ceremony in the Israeli representation building.

Ofeq-1 Mission To Be Prolonged by 'Several Weeks'
TA0210101788 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 2 Oct 88 p 1

[Report by Ze'ev Schiff]

[Text] The Israeli satellite, Ofeq-1, will remain in space longer than originally estimated. It became apparent that the successful launching provided the satellite with more energy. The result is that instead of remaining in space for a month, the satellite's mission will be prolonged by several weeks.

The satellite will then return to the earth's atmosphere and burn up in the process. The extended stay will not add much to the scientific experiment. All the satellite's systems are working well even though one of its batteries has weakened.

Peres Returns; Comments on Tabah, Shamir Remarks
TA3009154288 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres returned from New York this evening. Speaking at Ben-Gurion Airport, Peres told reporters that he believes Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir did not seriously mean to accuse the Alignment, in cooperation with Egypt and the United States, of dragging the Inner Cabinet into agreeing to go for arbitration on Tabah. If the prime minister really meant what he said, what is he doing in the Cabinet? Mr Peres rhetorically asked.

Our correspondent Meron Tzur reports that, more to the point, Mr Peres said that the Inner Cabinet ultimately approved the decision to enter mutually acceptable arbitration on the issue of Tabah. He said that the arbitration ruling must now be read carefully, and then its implementation decided.

Lubrani Reportedly in Beirut 'Last Weekend'
TA0210113088 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 2 Oct 88 p 2

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Dan Avidan]

[Excerpt] Uri Lubrani, coordinator of government activities in Lebanon, visited East Beirut last weekend, according to Lebanese sources.

These sources say Lubrani met Maronite leaders and discussed with them the current situation in Lebanon following the establishment of the military government headed by General Michel 'Awn, which serves parallel to the previous government headed by pro-Syrian politician Salim al-Huss. [passage omitted]

2 'Terrorists' Killed in South Lebanon
TA0210092788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] Two terrorists were killed in the security zone in southern Lebanon while preparing to plant a bomb along the South Lebanese Army's patrol route near the village of Al-'Ayshiyah this morning. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the bomb exploded in their hands and they were killed on the spot.

Navy Captures Fatah Naval Force 'Terrorist'
TA0210163588 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] It was learned today that an Israeli Navy vessel on a patrol near the coastline at Al-Rashidiyah in southern Lebanon several weeks ago detained a rubber boat containing a terrorist belonging to Fatah's naval force. The Navy vessel surprised the rubber boat at night, and the terrorist gave himself up.

Our army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that the terrorist told his interrogators that his job was to smuggle terrorists and arms between Sidon and the Al-Rashidiyah refugee camp. Four days later, an Israel Navy vessel destroyed a terrorist boat containing three terrorists near Tyre.

Ex-Shin Bet Men Accused in 'Watergate' Scandal

TA0210105688 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 2 Oct 88 p 1

[Report by party affairs correspondent Ilan Shehori]

[Text] The Likud leadership was dumbstruck at the report in HA'ARETZ that the three former Shin Bet employees who were fired after the bus No 300 affair—Re'uven Hazaq, Peleg Raday, and Rafi Malka—have been employed by the Labor Party. One of their jobs was to spy on Likud election headquarters.

Senior Likud figures charged the Labor Party with creating an "Israeli Watergate," arguing that even before HA'ARETZ reported it, there were signs indicating that the Alignment was using illegal means to try to obtain information on what is happening in the Likud.

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir personally intervened in the affair. On Friday special consultations on the matter were held in his office. This morning the Likud election headquarters will hold an extraordinary session to consider, among other possibilities, a request for an urgent session of the Knesset, which is in recess, to discuss the affair, and a request that the police begin investigating the matter.

The Likud's election campaign yesterday issued an announcement on the matter, saying: "The Likud has long seen signs of an Israeli Watergate scandal conducted by the Alignment. Even before HA'ARETZ came out with the story, there were suspicions and clues in the Likud that the Alignment was spying on it. The election headquarters is now carrying out an extensive investigation into the matter, looking for possible additional signs of such activity. Wiretapping and spying are very base methods. They cannot be ignored," says the Likud's communique.

The report generated uproar and surprise in the Alignment, too. Early this morning, election headquarters chairman Minister 'Ezer Weizman demanded an inquest into how the report was leaked. He instructed the head of the Alignment's organizational team, Avraham Shohat, who hired the "Shefran" [name as published] information protection company owned by Rafi Malka, to issue a statement to the effect that the former Shin Bet personnel are only consulting the Labor Party in confidentiality and information protection. Later the Alignment's election headquarters held a special session on how to minimize the importance of the disclosure.

Weizman told HA'ARETZ on Friday that there is nothing wrong in the Alignment's hiring of the three ex-Shin Bet men. "They needed a job. The Likud hired another person who was dismissed in connection with that affair, Rafi Eytan. Those who leaked the story to you merely wanted to harm the Labor Party," said Weizman.

On Friday, senior Alignment personalities were given a detailed report on what is happening in the Likud. The report was drawn up by the Shin Bet men. It included various specifics on conflicts in the Likud leadership following the failure of the Likud's advertisement campaign in the press as well as data on the Likud's preparation for the televised election campaign ads which begin in 2 days.

HA'ARETZ has learned that the Shin Bet men's report was circulated only among a select few. Some copies were given to various departments in election headquarters. Major issues are brought to the attention of party chairman Shim'on Peres. Secretary General 'Uzi Bar'am received a summary of the reports compiled by a special aide who has been working for him for a few months.

Labor Party spokeswoman Mikhal Kohen last night issued an official communique on the disclosure of the affair by HA'ARETZ. The communique, formulated by Avraham Shohat, states that the Labor Party totally rejects the use of intelligence means to obtain data on the Likud's information headquarters.

She claimed that the Labor Party hired "Shefran," Rafi Malka's company, as consultants for information protection, installation security, and guard duty during party events. Kohen added that these are the only areas in which "Shefran" is linked to Peleg Raday, while Re'uven Hazaq is employed by Teddy Kollek in Jerusalem as his campaign manager.

"The Labor Party will remain faithful to the fair election charter which it adopted in its entirety. This includes this aspect, too," said the Alignment spokeswoman.

Peleg Raday, who was discharged from the Shin Bet, told HA'ARETZ last night that he and Re'uven Malka [name as published] were hired by the Labor Party to carry out very clearly specified duties. He maintained that the contract with the Alignment was signed by Rafi Malka and that basically they are required to provide counseling on information, installation, and event security. "Any other thing said or published about us is nothing but vicious speculation," said Peleg Raday.

Poll Shows Decline in Ministers' Popularity

TA0210115788 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 2 Oct 88 p 3

[Text] The number of those satisfied with both the Alignment and the Likud ministers' performance is declining, the only exception being Finance Minister Moshe Nisim. Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and

foreign minister, is more popular than Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. These are the findings of a nationwide public opinion poll conducted last month for HA'ARETZ by the PORI Institute.

The number of people saying they are pleased with Yitzhaq Shamir's performance as prime minister has dropped to 27.8 percent, as opposed to 32.9 percent in the previous poll. This is the lowest rating given to him since he entered office in October 1986.

The percentage of those satisfied with Shim'on Peres' performance as foreign minister has dropped to 33.9, as opposed to 38.2 percent in August. This, too, is the lowest figure given to Peres since he assumed the post of foreign minister.

The number of those pleased with Yitzhaq Rabin's performance as defense minister went down to 46.2 percent, as opposed to 50.2 percent in August. Rabin, however, remains the most popular of all senior Cabinet ministers.

The number of those pleased with Ari'el Sharon's performance as industry and trade minister has dropped from 23.8 percent in August to 20.8 percent now. He is still the least popular Cabinet minister.

The number of those pleased with David Levi as construction and housing minister has dropped to 22.5 percent from 25.6 percent in August. Only Finance Minister Moshe Nisim's popularity rose from 41.4 percent in August to 42.2 percent today.

The poll was conducted on a representative sampling of some 1,200 men and women personally interviewed throughout the country.

'Many Soldiers' Use Plastic Bullets

TA0210084288 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 2 Oct 88 p 1

[Report by the military correspondent]

[Text] Many of the soldiers serving in the territories have been issued clips of plastic bullets for their personal weapons, following a short course in which they were trained how to use the bullets.

This contradicts the impression created recently by official spokesman, that plastic bullets were issued only to sharpshooters and officers. This was indeed the case two months ago when the bullets were first introduced, but it has been learned that new orders were issued two weeks ago by Defence Minister Rabin.

At that time he introduced a tougher policy aimed at inflicting bodily harm on rioters while keeping fatalities down to a minimum. Plastic bullets were issued to a large number of troops, along with strict instructions on the circumstances warranting their use and the ranges in which they were permitted to be used.

Further on Unrest, Curfews, Related Incidents

Schools To Reopen in Jerusalem

TA3009160788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] Studies in municipal schools in East Jerusalem will resume next week. Fifth- and sixth-graders will go back to school on Tuesday, while prep and high schools will reopen on Thursday. This decision was made in view of the fact that studies in kindergartens and junior grades in elementary schools are proceeding without any disruptions. The intention is to reopen all grades in municipal schools in East Jerusalem in an orderly and controlled fashion. The 8,000 students who have been attending municipal schools since the beginning of the month will be joined by another 9,000 pupils next week.

'Large Disturbance' in Silwan

TA0210055788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] A large disturbance occurred in the village of Silwan near East Jerusalem yesterday. The police dispersed the rioters with tear gas and detained several of them.

Tear Gas Used in E. Jerusalem

TA0210132188 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Excerpt] There were several more disturbances in East Jerusalem during the past few hours. The windows of the Bank Hapoalim branch in Salah al-Din Street were smashed, and in the village of Silwan there were two incidents of stone throwing at police, who used gas to disperse the perpetrators. [passage omitted]

Blast Hits Hitchhiking Site

TA3009122888 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] A small explosive charge blew up a short time ago near the Gannot Junction. There were neither casualties nor damage. The charge exploded at a soldiers' hitchhiking station, which luckily was empty at the time.

Firebomb Hurled at Patrol

TA0110093688 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] Our correspondent Yosi Qoren reports that last night in Jerusalem's Old City a firebomb was hurled at a Border Police foot patrol, but it did not explode.

4 Wounded in Explosions

TA0210102488 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Two small bombs exploded in Jerusalem this morning. One bomb exploded in a grocery store at the junction of Me'a She'arim and Shivtey Yisra'el streets and another in a grocery store in the Jewish Quarter. Our correspondent Yosi Qoren reports that in the first incident four people were wounded—three girls and a man. They were hospitalized with shrapnel wounds, but their condition is not serious. In the explosion in the Jewish Quarter there were no injuries. [passage omitted]

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 0930 GMT on 2 October, in a preliminary report on the incidents, said the following: It is interesting to note that the method of operation and the manner in which the bombs were planted were identical in both cases. Apparently, the charges were planted in a package containing bread from the Berman bakery.]

Rabbi Attacked in Hebron

TA3009115388 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Report by Arye Gus]

[Text] According to reports we have just received, there has been a serious clash near Policeman's Square in Hebron. A vehicle containing Rabbi Levinger and his family was stoned by youngsters who had apparently just left the mosques after prayers. According to eyewitnesses, one of the rioters stuck his hand into the car in which the family was driving, intending to harm the driver.

An IDF patrol that was in the area was also attacked with stones, and then rushed to help the father and his family. The passengers of the vehicle and the soldiers fired in the air and apparently later also fired in the direction of the rioters, since according to what we have learned, five Arabs were wounded. Meanwhile one of the wounded, aged about 40, has died of his wounds. Arab sources report another fatality who fell from the roof of a building during the chase. Some stones were thrown from the roofs of buildings.

Rabbi Levinger was slightly hurt by pieces of glass. Jewish settler sources have now reported that they are holding a sort of sit-in at the scene of the incident to demonstrate their presence, and are discussing their reactions. They are also waiting for Knesset members to discuss this serious incident with them.

The Army has declared the entire area a closed military area.

'Masked Men' Attack IDF Force

TA3009123788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] In an incident at Glass Junction at the entrance to Hebron masked men attacked an IDF force. The commander fired several shots. One of the assailants was wounded and later died. Security forces arrested several suspected stone throwers and clamped a curfew on the area.

Hebron-Beersheba Road Unblocked

TA0210113388 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] The settlers from the settlement of Bet Haggay south of Hebron removed the barriers from the Hebron-Beersheba road after a senior IDF officer arrived and informed them that the area is a closed military zone. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the Bet Haggay settlers blocked the road for a long time to protest the increased number of attacks against Jewish transportation.

5 Wounded by IDF in Rafah

TA0110162088 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] Five youths were wounded by IDF gunfire in Rafah today. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that groups of youngsters erected stone barriers, set tires on fire, and clashed with soldiers. The IDF clamped a curfew on the neighborhood of Shabura. A curfew remains in effect on the Al-Nusayrat refugee camp.

Curfew on Balatah Camp Lifted

TA3009200588 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The curfew on the Balatah refugee camp near Nabulus was lifted this evening. Our correspondent Shlomo Arad reports from Nabulus:

[Begin video recording] A curfew was imposed last night on the Balatah refugee camp to prevent riots in the wake of the death in the hospital yesterday of a local youth who was seriously wounded 2 years ago. [passage omitted] [end video recording]

5 Hurt by IDF Gunfire

TA0110181988 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] Five rioters were wounded today by IDF gunfire in Judaea and Samaria. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that women and youngsters threw stones at security troops in Bethlehem. Two youngsters were wounded by plastic bullets. Clashes with soldiers also occurred in Nabulus, and three rioters were wounded.

Stones were thrown this evening at a border police patrol in Al-Tur, east of Jerusalem. The patrol fired gas grenades, but there were no casualties.

Also this evening, a firebomb was thrown at a border police patrol in East Jerusalem's Abu Tor neighborhood. Our correspondent Yosi Qoren reports that the firebomb did not ignite, and nobody was hurt.

The windshields of an Egged Company bus were shattered in the vicinity of Wadi al-Jawz. No damage was caused [as heard], and there were no casualties.

Kakh, IDF Clash in Jericho

TA0210194288 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] There was a violent incident this evening between Kakh members and an IDF force in Jericho. Our army affairs correspondent Moshe Shlonsky reports two groups of Kakh members tried to enter Jericho in order to reach the Jewish synagogue and settle there. One group was detained by IDF forces at the entrance to the town and escorted to the nearby settlement of Vered Yeriho. The second managed to reach the synagogue in Jericho's old city. The youngsters refused to heed the IDF's order to leave, and according to army sources, violent incidents developed. The youths finally left and went by foot to the settlement of Vered Yeriho.

2 Patrols Attacked in Judaea

TA0110211488 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] Two IDF patrols in Judaea were attacked this evening. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that a makeshift grenade was thrown at a patrol in (Sawahna al-Sharqiyah) near Bethlehem. Nobody was hurt, and no damage was caused. The security forces clamped a curfew on the village and launched searches.

A firebomb was thrown at a patrol in the village of Bani Na'im in the Hebron Hills. In this incident also, there were no casualties, and no damage was caused.

2 Wounded in Al-Nusayrat Camp

TA3009172188 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] Two youngsters were slightly wounded by IDF gunfire this afternoon during disturbances in the Al-Nusayrat refugee camp in the Gaza Strip. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that approximately 200 local youths erected stone barriers and set tires on fire at the entrance to the camp. IDF soldiers who arrived on the scene to disperse them fired a few bullets, and two rioters were wounded.

Update on Gaza Strip Casualties

TA0110082588 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] Three more people wounded by IDF gunfire were brought to Gaza hospitals last night. The number of casualties during yesterday's disturbances has now reached five. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that two of the wounded were from the Al-Shati' refugee camp and one was from Rafah. Yesterday afternoon two casualties were transferred from the Al-Nusayrat refugee camp. This camp is now under curfew.

'Uprising' Tolls Differ

TA0210114288 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 2 Oct 88 p 3

[Report by Ori Nir, Eytan Rabin, Nadav Shragay, and Dan Margalit]

[Summary] Seventeen men were killed in the territories in September. This figure includes "only those killed in clashes with the security forces. September also saw a steep rise in the number of gunshot wounds in the territories because of the increasing use of plastic bullets. A precise count is very difficult. The figure is estimated to be somewhere between 250 and 300. According to UNRWA data, the number of those wounded in September in the Gaza Strip alone stands at more than 200.

"The following figures sum up the casualty toll in the territories since the beginning of the uprising on 9 December 1987 (the data, according to the IDF listing, is true for 27 September):

"Arabs killed: 207 (137 in Judaea and Samaria, 70 in the Gaza Strip).

"Jews killed: one soldier and one civilian girl.

"Arabs wounded: 2,832 (2,057 in Judaea and Samaria and 775 in the Gaza Strip).

"Jews wounded: 614 soldiers (415 in Judaea and Samaria and 199 in the Gaza Strip).

"Civilians: 338 (310 in Judaea and Samaria and 28 in the Gaza Strip).

"The casualty figure includes only those hit by the security forces in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The casualty figure according to IDF data is far lower than the figures shown by news agencies and the United Nations. According to UNRWA data, the number of deaths related to the uprising is 275 in the areas beyond the Green Line."

Strike, Curfews Continue

TA0310091688 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 3 Oct 88

[Text] There is a general strike in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza to protest the continued closure of institutions of higher education and schools in the territories. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that so far there have been no disturbances. In the Gaza Strip, the Dayr al-Balah, Al-Nusayrat, and Jabalyah refugee camps, and the Al-Shaja'iyah and Al-Shaykh Radwan neighborhoods of Gaza City are under a curfew.

Royal Decree Postpones Parliamentary Elections

JN0210111588 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] A royal decree has been issued postponing the general parliamentary elections in the Kingdom. This is based on the Paragraph 4 of Article No 73 of the Constitution. A responsible source has stated that general elections will be held immediately after the government completes the necessary amendments to the electoral law in light of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan's decision to disengage legal and administrative relations with the occupied West Bank.

King Husayn Returns From 'Working Visit' to Iraq

JN0310054888 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 3 Oct 88

[Text] Amman—His Majesty King Husayn returned home this morning following a 1-day working visit to Baghdad during which his majesty held talks with his brother His Excellency Saddam Husayn on the situation in the Arabian Gulf area, efforts to establish peace there, and bilateral relations. His majesty was received on arrival by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, Chief Chamberlain His Highness Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd, personal secretary to His Highness Prince 'Ali ibn Nayif, and the Royal Court secretary general. The accompanying delegation returned with his majesty. Heading those seeing his majesty off in Baghdad was His Excellency President Saddam Husayn. Also seeing his majesty off were a number of senior Iraqi officials and the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad.

AL-DUSTUR on Visit

JN0310095088 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 3 Oct 88 pp 1, 21

[Editorial: "The Meeting of Brothers and Arab Solidarity"]

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn's visit to fraternal Iraq and his meeting yesterday with his brother, His Excellency President Saddam Husayn, came on a firm basis of brotherly and sincere relations of cooperation and joint pan-Arab coordination. The visit further entrenches the deeply rooted bonds between the two fraternal peoples and adds another pillar to the lofty edifice of Jordanian-Iraqi relations—as lofty as those stationed on the longest line of confrontation with the Zionist enemy and those who triumphed over the black Iranian invasion. Hence, his majesty the king arrived in Baghdad under the Iraqi banner of a dear pan-Arab victory to discuss with his brother, His Excellency President Saddam, all the changes in the current heated Arab stage, which has witnessed an Iraqi victory on the one hand and an escalating Palestinian popular uprising on the other.

Undoubtedly, topping the discussions of the two grand leaders were developments in the peace negotiations with Iran and its intransigence and exposed maneuvers, especially since the UN-sponsored efforts have recently reached a standstill threatening to return the situation to square No 1 due to the Iranians' unacceptable intransigence and inflexibility. Perhaps the unjust campaign of lies orchestrated by Western circles known for their extreme hostility to the Arabs on alleged Iraqi use of chemical weapons against some positions of Kurdish rebellion has helped the Iranians show more intransigence in their negotiating stand. In fact, this campaign has played a direct role in sabotaging the UN-sponsored negotiations in Geneva.

Hence, his majesty's talks with his brother, President Saddam, are considered a comprehensive and intensive review of various developments related to the current situation in the Arabian Gulf, efforts to establish peace in the region, and coordination of Arab efforts at the current delicate stage experienced by the Middle East. This is in addition to Jordanian-Iraqi relations, which have witnessed further promotion and expansion in various spheres of bilateral cooperation. Viewing such visits by His Majesty King Husayn to the Arab brothers as the available practical formula for promoting the Arab situation and enhancing solidarity among brothers, we hope that this sincere and relentless Jordanian effort will yield all the desired results and fulfill the hopes pinned on it to activate joint Arab action and solidarity.

Trade Unions To Dismantle West Bank Links

JN0110082688 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 1 Oct 88 p 1

[Text] Amman—SAWT AL-SHA'B has learned that the cabinet will soon make a decision organizing the affairs of the trade unions by separating the West Bank branches from mother centers in Amman. Trade union sources said that presidents of trade unions are currently studying the expected decision. They are expected to issue a statement supporting the disengagement of legal and administrative ties with the West Bank and expressing readiness to disengage ties between trade unions and their branches in the West Bank, provided that this is done in stages.

The sources noted that the trade union headquarters in the West Bank has been closed for 18 months by an Israeli occupation authorities' decision.

New Driving License Regulations Issued in W.Bank

JN0210094888 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 2 Oct 88 p 1, 17

[Text] Amman—The Ministry of Interior has issued new instructions for the West Bank inhabitants who hold temporary Jordanian passports and who wish to obtain a private or public Jordanian driving license. According to the instructions, a driving license of the first, second, third, and seventh categories (private) will be granted to West Bank inhabitants who hold a green card. They do not need to fulfill the conditions on residence and ownership of private vehicles which appear in the text of article 2, paragraph d, of the instructions on registering

and renewing the license of vehicles. The applicant for a driving license would have to submit a good conduct certificate. The instructions also included the following:

-To obtain a driving license of the fourth, fifth, and sixth (public) category, the West Bank inhabitants, holders of temporary Jordanian passports, are treated like the other fraternal Arab countries' citizens.

-To obtain a driving license of the public category, West Bank inhabitants, holders of temporary Jordanian passports, will be treated like citizens of the other fraternal Arab countries, while maintaining the acquired rights of those owning public vehicles which travel routes inside the Hashemite Kingdom.

-The registration and licensing of trucks with Jordanian license plates which operate between the two banks and number 383 trucks will be cancelled. They will be re-registered as temporary entry trucks after paying the legal registration fees and the price of the license plate.

-The word 'Palestinian' will be written in the special nationality gap on the driving license of the inhabitants of the West Bank carrying green cards.

AL-RA'Y on U.S. 'Umbrella' Protecting Israel

JN0110075888 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
1 Oct 88 pp 1, 22

[Editorial: "Israeli Terrorism and the U.S. Umbrella"]

[Text] Yesterday, Israel's organized terrorism in the occupied territories entered a new phase, characterized by open cooperation between the occupaton forces and the Zionist settlers in perpetrating murders against the Palestinian people. In Hebron, the terrorist Rabbi Levinger, leader of the Gush Imunim gang, killed a Palestinian youth with three bullets in the chest. The occupation forces protected the killer rabbi while he committed his horrible crime. These forces added a new crime when they killed a second Palestinian youth. Then, the Israeli forces declared Hebron a closed zone and clamped a curfew on the city.

Terrorist coordination between the Israeli authorities and settlers has become a growing phenomenon practiced in broad daylight. These forces have eliminated the theoretical difference between their military establishment and the settlers, combining them into an organized terrorist establishment. This development means redoubling the burden on the Palestinian uprising. At the same time, it means that the uprising is no longer committed to considering this theoretical difference, which the occupation authorities have eliminated by allowing settlers to join them in perpetrating the murder of Palestinians in the occupied territories.

It is natural, therefore, for legitimate Palestinian resistance against the occupation forces to become legitimate against settlers. These settlers no longer enjoy the immunity of civilians after becoming criminals and an arm of the Israeli military establishment, albeit in civilian clothes.

Killings and oppressive practices by the Israeli authorities and settlers in the occupied territories violate all international laws, conventions, and norms, whether perpetrated through the use of ordinary or plastic bullets. The international community, represented by the United Nations, bears a real responsibility to completely eliminate these acts and practices. The concern that the United States expressed to Israel over the latter's use of plastic bullets is no substitute for this. Such concern is worthless while Washington protects its terrorist ally by its veto in the Security Council and prevents the adoption of firm international measures against it.

No one doubts that the U.S. umbrella protecting the Israeli aggressors encourages them to continue perpetrating their crimes against the Palestinian people. It is no secret that this umbrella is involved in protecting organizaed terrorism, perpetrated jointly by Israeli military personnel and settlers. No one knows how Washington can have any credibility condemning terrorism while it provides an umbrella to cover the Israeli terrorists.

The tragic situation in the occupied territories is one of this protection's fruits. No one can possibly be convinced that the protectors of terrorists can be peace advocates. Jordan has been calling for the restoration of Palestinian national rights over Palestinian soil. This is the only just and indispensable way to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the region. Jordan has also been calling for the convening of an international peace conference to be attended by all concerned parties and the Security Council's five permanent member states to achieve the hoped for peace. It is better for the United States to support this call, which the world welcomes, and expedite the convocation of the conference. This is better than its support for Israeli terrorism, which daily makes peace in the region further removed.

Islamic Jihad Reportedly To Release U.S. Hostage

NC0110219588 Paris AFP in English 1944 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] Beirut, Oct 1 (AFP)—The Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine said Saturday it would release one of four hostages it is holding in Lebanon as a sign of "good will." The group did not give the name of the hostage to be freed or the date of the release in a statement sent to a Western news agency here accompanied by photographs of two U.S. hostages, Alann Steen and Jesse Turner, lecturers at Beirut University College. The group is also holding Robert Polhill, an American citizen, and Mithileswhar Singh, an Indian with U.S. resident status, also teachers at the college. All four were kidnapped on January 24 last year.

Called 'Unilateral Initiative'

NC0110202288 Paris AFP in English 2018 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] Beirut, Oct 1 (AFP)—The Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine said Saturday it would release one of four hostages held in Lebanon for 20 months as a sign of "good will." The group did not name the hostage to be freed or indicate the date of the release in a statement sent to a Western news agency here. It said freeing the hostage was "a unilateral initiative", adding that the U.S. Administration "continues to deny the most elementary rights to our people."

The statement was accompanied by a colour polaroid photograph of two U.S. hostages, Alann Steen and Jesse Turner, lecturers at Beirut University College. The group is also holding another American, Robert Polhill, and Mithileswhar Singh, an Indian with U.S. resident status, also teachers at the college. All four were kidnapped on January 24 last year. The group invited the families of all four hostages to come to Lebanon for the release.

The photograph showed Mr. Steen and Mr. Turner wearing navy blue seat shirts, holding cigarettes and with their arms around each other's shoulders. The hostages were dressed the same way in previous photographs accompanying three statements the group has issued since September 15, when it said it was ready to free all four of its hostages if the U.S. Government adopted a "positive attitude to the rights of the Palestinian people." The Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine said it decided on steps to "help our brothers" in the nine-month-old Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The decision to free a hostage had been "difficult", it said.

Mr. Steen, 46, is a communications and journalism teacher, and Mr. Turner, 47, lectures in computer studies and mathematics. Mr. Polhill, 56, teaches accountancy and Mr. Singh, aged 60, is dean of the School of Management. [passage omitted]

No Beirut Source Confirmation

NC0310164988 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1620 GMT 3 Oct 88

[Text] According to an urgent AFP dispatch quoting CBS television, U.S. hostage Alann Steen was freed in Beirut today and U.S. authorities expect to receive him [words indistinct]. The network attributed its report to U.S. Government sources. The White House has announced that the United States was informed by a Middle East government this morning on the expected imminent release in Lebanon of a Western hostage.

However, there were reservations about this information. White House spokesman [name indistinct] added that the hostage's identity was not clear. He declined to confirm or deny reports that the Syrian Government communicated this information to Washington. He reiterated [words indistinct] have not concluded any deal to release the hostages.

No source in Beirut has so far confirmed the report on the release of Steen.

'Awn: Bristol Conference Statement 'Partitionist'

NC3009125988 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Excerpt] The cabinet meeting which was held under the chairmanship of General 'Awn ended shortly after midday today. The prime minister then chaired a meeting of the directors general attended by Ministers Ma'luf and Abu Jamrah and 32 directors general. The most prominent officials not attending the meeting were acting Cabinet Secretary General Hisham al-Sha'ar, Interior Ministry Director General Samih al-Sulh, Information Ministry General Ayyub Humayyid, and Director General of Internal Security Forces Major General 'Umar Makhzumi. After the meeting, Prime Minister General 'Awn made the following statement:

[Begin recording] The cabinet held a meeting today during which it reviewed the current political, security, and administrative situation. The cabinet expressed satisfaction with the work of the official departments and public institutions.

It then reviewed the international position on Lebanese developments and paused in particular at the stand announced by the foreign ministers of the five permanent UN Security Council members states, which reiterated the firm commitment to Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity. It also paused at French President Francois Mitterrand's speech at the UN General Assembly, which reflected a clear French position regarding support for Lebanon and its people and for enabling the Lebanese people to exercise their sovereignty freely.

The cabinet welcomed the position of the five major powers and President Mitterrand's speech, seeing in this speech a manifestation of France's traditions and historic ties with Lebanon. The cabinet registered its appreciation for these positions and for the interest which the Arab and friendly countries have shown in the Lebanese issue.

The cabinet then examined the stands which have emerged from the conference held at the Bristol Hotel yesterday. It saw in the statement which was issued a partitionist decision, but wrapped up in terms of unity about which there is supposedly no room for one-upmanship. This is because they are principles agreed upon by all Lebanese who regard coexistence as a sacred basis; who uphold the unity of Lebanon's territory, people, and institutions; who reject all plans for partition and resettlement; who adhere to Lebanon's Arab and cultural role; who agree on the principle of political reforms to achieve justice, equality, and equal opportunities; and who insist on holding the presidential elections soon to end the state of disintegration and fighting, and to allow the displaced to return to their homes.

However, the cabinet believes that giving power to the former government to work as a legitimate government establishes a new civil administration that assumes the character of a government and tries to usurp power. The cabinet restated its warning to the official departments and public institutions not to deal with it.

The Bristol conferees' rejection of the new government was regarded by the cabinet as recognition of it and a political position opposed to it, and it is not liable to affect its legitimacy.

The cabinet then discussed a number of other issues on its agenda and adopted the appropriate decisions regarding them. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Examines Syrian Options

NC3009180388 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] General 'Awn has said that the Lebanese issue has imposed itself on the UN Security Council, the Arab League, and the world and that the coming days will tell all. Responding to questions from correspondents following today's cabinet session, Gen 'Awn said: We have expressed a positive will regarding Syria and are dealing with it from a responsible position. Syria has three options: to reject, accept, or abstain. Our stand will be defined in light of the options they convey to us.

Gen 'Awn reiterated his warning against the establishment of a third, fourth, or fifth government. He said: The message is clear to everybody. They shoulder a historic responsibility much greater than that stipulated by law. The prime minister regretted statements made or stands taken by major countries saying that there are two governments, because this encourages partition. He added: I do not have covert and overt policies. All our policies are overt. Everyone is shouldering his responsibility.

Wants 'Total' Ties With Syria

NC0110074288 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] A foreign news agency has quoted Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn as having said: We want total and frank fraternal relations with Syria, but we do not want Syrian tutelage over us. He said that contacts with Syria are very important in preparing for the presidential election. The prime minister warned those who are playing with fire. Commenting on the clashes that took place on the Suq al-Gharb front, the prime minister said: The war will be comprehensive, it will involve all the forces in Lebanon, and everybody will be on the front-lines. He added: General 'Awn is still that General 'Awn who does not fear disturbances and who is prepared to resort to any necessary means to confront evil.

General 'Awn said: I will try to contain any attempts at military escalation by any instigators. Our war will not be an inter-Lebanese civil war. Meanwhile, the Lebanese Army's positions in Suq al-Gharb on the mountain came under light- and medium-caliber automatic weapon attack from the positions held by Junblatt's gunmen on the opposite side at 2310 last night. This prompted the Lebanese Army to retaliate and return the fire. A 10-minute clash ensued, but the security committee intervened and a cease-fire agreement was reached.

Birri, 'Usayran Comment After Cabinet Meeting

NC3009133088 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Excerpts] The cabinet met under Dr Salim al-Huss at the Government House this morning to discuss various developments. Ministers 'Adil 'Usayran, 'Abdallah al-Rasi, Walid Junblatt, and Nabih Birri were present. The cabinet secretary general read the following statement after the meeting:

The cabinet met this morning at Government House under Dr Salim al-Huss and in the presence of Ministers 'Adil 'Usayran, 'Abdallah al-Rasi, Nabih Birri, and Walid Junblatt. The cabinet discussed current political issues as well as the dangers threatening the unity of Lebanon. Dr al-Huss reviewed his exchanges with members of the diplomatic corps and the messages he has sent to the Arab League Secretariat and Arab leaders on the current situation, particularly with regard to electing a president of the republic and the need to hold these elections as soon as possible, since this will help bring about detente and return the situation to normal. [passage omitted]

Minister Walid Junblatt did not make any statement after the meeting. Minister Nabih Birri said: There is a possibility that the government might be enlarged because we believe that Lebanon's unity can be restored only by keeping Dr al-Huss' government in power. Gen 'Awn must resign. Birri added: We must not forget that some European countries were involved in creating the Lebanese state as it is now and in establishing the company of Lebanon, or a farm, and not a homeland. He added that France must reconsider its calculations.

Minister 'Adil 'Usayran, for his part, said he had briefed Dr al-Huss on everything and there was no need to speak further. Asked if there is any intention to dismiss the Army commander, 'Usayran said: This matter was not discussed.

Ja'ja' Comments on 'Awn Government, American Role
NC3009182988 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1645 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] Speaking in Kasrawan today in the framework of the program Free Parliament, broadcast live on Radio Free Lebanon, the Lebanese Forces Commander Dr Samir Ja'ja' was first asked what happened the day he met the Army Commander in Chief General Michel 'Awn. Ja'ja' began by saying that the aim of all was to free all Lebanon. At 11 o'clock on Wednesday [21 September], he was told by President Amin al-Jumayyil that the president was going to Damascus. Dr Ja'ja' answered that he saw no point in the visit. He then telephoned Gen 'Awn and met him at Al-Yarzi to discuss probabilities.

Asked about Thursday [22 September] afternoon, Ja'ja' said that he did not have complete information about what happened at Damascus. But when it was clear Syria wanted to prevent a presidential election by insisting it be at parliament square, responsible circles consulted each other.

On Thursday afternoon it appeared that a ministry was under way. Dr Ja'ja' was called to B'abda Palace to meet aides of President al-Jumayyil, but he did not see the president himself, who was said to be forming a ministry. But later in the evening no ministry had yet appeared. Finally, a military government seemed the fastest solution possible.

Asked about his reference to Gen 'Awn's government as a government of independence, Ja'ja' said that in 13 years this was the first formed without consultation with Damascus. Asked about national acceptance of this government and accusations that it was partitionist, he said any group might claim to form a government, but only one could be constitutional, and according to the Constitution Gen 'Awn's was the only constitutional one, and it was also the effective one.

Dr Ja'ja' then pointed to the civil administrations of the Al-Shuf and other defect authorities. So it was not Gen 'Awn's government that was partitionist. He asked who had started the boycott of the Presidency and divided the ministry into two separate groups. As for the parliament, it had been divided by the opening of the old parliament building, where many deputies could not go. He would not call meetings there a Muslim parliament but rather a Syrian one. At last, there was now one legal government—legal for all Lebanon. It was no problem that some ministers could not come. This government had ended partition and accepted responsibility for all Lebanon. Was this partition or rather reunification?

Asked about the future of the Lebanese currency, Dr Ja'ja' said he saw no reason why people should discuss this. The fact that the Central Bank and half the gold was in West Beirut made no difference. Half the gold was abroad. What counted most was the signature. The Syrians could not take the gold, the five keys being out of their reach. Most of the officials would die rather give away the keys, including Dr al-Huss. Such an action would also undermine Syria's policy. What counted was the signature of the governor [of the Central Bank], and this was guaranteed by officials in the eastern sector. The new government had been formed several days now and none of the calamities professed had occurred.

Turning to social questions, Dr Ja'ja' was asked about the new school and university year. He said he saw nothing to torpedo; for example, he saw little likelihood of a military conflagration. [sentence as heard]

As for relations between the Lebanese Forces and the Army, there were certain constants, despite local disagreement, despite incidents and efforts to provoke trouble, despite the lack of personal contact between himself and Gen 'Awn. The Army and the Lebanese Forces were both big organizations, and individual incidents were inevitable, but nobody wanted disaccord and both had a common aim.

Asked about Syrian accusations that Iraq was supplying modern weapons to the Lebanese Forces, Dr Ja'ja' said this was bewildering. It was said that it was wrong to deal with Israel and wrong to deal with the Western nations. Now it was being said that it was wrong to deal with Arab nations. Had everything to go through Syria?

Asked about the recent American role in the presidential election, Dr Ja'ja' said that the Lebanese were too much in the habit of expecting others to do their work for them. They should rely on themselves. The Americans had thought it better for the Lebanese to take Mikha'il Dahir than remain without a president. If they had made a small mistake, it was not surprising. America did not enjoy dealing with Syria, as it was never clear what Syria wanted. The Lebanese together were stronger in Lebanon than Syria and the Americans. The Lebanese should

not simply stand aside and leave the situation to the Syrians and the Americans. The results of the recent Lebanese decision had shown it.

Syria, by pushing forward Sulayman Franjiyah and Mikha'il Dahir, had tried to create a constitutional vacuum. But during the critical moment, there had been no Syrian bombardment. And now the Syrians had lost the card in their hands. Now there was an authority dealing with both big questions and with both small details of daily life.

As for a candidate for the Presidency, the Lebanese Forces had none. They would accept anyone who was not a Syrian agent. As for unity among Christians, this meant a common attitude but not an enforced union. About the meeting at the Bristol Hotel, Dr Ja'ja' did not understand really what it was about. All that came of it was an appeal to follow Dr al-Huss, although the president had conferred authority to Gen 'Awn. He thought that Prime Minister al-Huss in earlier stages had been unable to foresee what would come.

As for the case of Deputy Farid Sarhal, Dr Ja'ja' saw his detention as a sort of punishment for not attending the session of parliament called when Sulayman Franjiyah was presidential candidate. Asked about whether he thought foreign governments would support Gen 'Awn's government, he thought they would work with it, even if their policy meant avoiding action that would complicate relations with Syria. In any case, the position of free Lebanon was much stronger with the formation of this government, although there could be no final solution for Lebanon until Syria had withdrawn.

Asked a question about the apparent disappearance of the deputy commander of the Lebanese Forces, Attorney Karim Paqraduni, Dr Ja'ja' said that rumors about him were baseless. Concerning the election of the speaker of parliament due in 3 weeks time, as it was possible for the parliament to meet effectively only at Villa Mansur, Dr Ja'ja' hoped it would be possible to take the speakership out of Syria's hands and put it in Lebanese hands.

Amal Elements Fire at Israeli Boat off Tyre

NC0110081488 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] According to security sources, an Israeli boat has been seen cruising off the sandy beach of Tyre. The sources added that Amal elements opened fire at the boat forcing it to retreat.

Hizballah, Palestinians To 'Confront' Amal

NC0110162488 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] According to the BAYRUT NEWS AGENCY, the leaders of the Amal Movement have asked all of the Movement's members in the South to halt all military operations against the Israeli army and the South Lebanese Army [SLA]. This decision was made after reports surfaced that Hizballah has made preparations to confront the Movement. The agency notes that the Amal Movement's stand prompted Hizballah men and followers of Yasir 'Arafat to agree on a unified stand to confront the Movement. This unified stand also commits both sides to decrease their attacks on the Israeli army and the SLA, because they view the Amal Movement and Syria as a far greater threat than the Israelis.

Al-Asad Cables Congratulations to Gorbachev

JN0110182088 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 1 Oct 88

["Text" of cable sent by President Hafiz Al-Asad to Mikhail Gorbachev on the occasion of his election as chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium]

[Text] Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee:

I take the opportunity of your election as chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium to express my heartfelt congratulations and sincere wishes of success, health, and happiness. I wish the friendly Soviet people, under your leadership, further achievements.

I also take this opportunity to stress my confidence that the bonds of friendship and cooperation between our countries, which have strengthened and grown over the years and been proved solid by events, will continue to develop and grow in all areas in the mutual interests of our friendly peoples as well as to advance global peace and justice.

Al-Asad Receives Credentials of U.S. Ambassador

JN0210134088 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Summary] Damascus—President Hafiz al-Asad today received the credentials of Edward Djerejian, the new U.S. ambassador to Syria. Afterward, the president received him. They exchanged talks on relations between Syria and the United States. The president wished the ambassador success in his mission.

Al-Shar' Meets Foreign Counterparts in New York

JN3009190488 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] New York—Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' has met with FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher. Assistant Foreign Minister Diya'ullah al-Fattal attended the meeting. Talks centered on the situation in the region, the latest developments in Lebanon, and means of promoting bilateral relations.

Al-Shar' also met with Yugoslav Foreign Minister Budimir Loncar. Talks centered on the current situation in the region and existing cooperation relations between Syria and Yugoslavia.

Al-Shar' met with Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi During the meeting, talks centered on the latest developments in the Arab arena. The foreign minister also met with YAR Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani. Talks centered on current Arab events.

Meets More Counterparts

JN0110191488 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] New York—Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' today met with Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias. They discussed bilateral ties and regional developments.

Al-Shar' also met with Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, and they discussed how best to enhance the role of the Nonaligned Movement in the international arena and bilateral ties.

The minister met with his Indoneisian counterpart Ali Alatas to discuss regional developments and other matters of shared interest.

Faruq al-Shar' also met at his New York residence Vladimir Petroviskiy, USSR deputy foreign minister. They discussed the bilateral friendly ties of friendship and cooperation. They also discussed regional developments.

Al-Shar' also met with Austrian Foreign Minister Alois Mock; they discussed means to foster cooperation and regional developments.

Al-Shar' Views Lebanese National Conference

JN0110052088 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] New York—Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' affirmed at the Arab foreign ministers' meeting in New York yesterday that the statement issued by the national conference in Lebanon is a rejection of all partition plans supported by Israel and its tools in Lebanon.

Al-Shar' added: The statement reiterates the unity of Lebanon—territory, people, and institutions. It also reiterates the Arabism of Lebanon's identity, affiliation, and destiny. He said: The statement notes the need for rectifying the political order to guarantee justice and equality among all Lebanese.

The minister affirmed that the Lebanese national conference asked the government, through Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss, to continue the work of the establishments and to take the necessary masures to hold the presidential elections as soon as possible.

Al-Shar' said that the statement should be supported and backed by the Arab countries without exception because if there is a choice between a united Lebanon and a fragmented Lebanon as sought by Israel, the Arabs will only opt for an Arab Lebanon. This came in response to the Iraqi regime's foreign minister, who considered Arab consensus on praising the statement issued by the Lebanese national conference a bias toward one faction in Lebanon.

At the end of their meeting, the Arab foreign ministers issued a statement in which they expressed deep concern over developments in Lebanon and the dangers of the continuation of this crisis to Lebanon's future, security, independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

The Arab foreign ministers also expressed their absolute rejection of any attempt to fragment and divide Lebanon. The Arab foreign ministers called on all Lebanese parties to renounce differences and close ranks to overcome the current crisis and work together in the interests of Lebanon and the Lebanese people.

The Arab ministers also appealed to all Lebanese factions to double their efforts to achieve national reconciliation and elect a president for the republic as soon as possible to safeguard the constitutional and national institutions, rebuild and rehabilitate Lebanon, and regain Lebanon's role within the Arab fold.

Press on Conference

JN3009065388 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 30 Sep 88

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Lebanese National Conference Is Commitment to Patriotism," the newspaper AL-BA'TH says in its editorial today: The importance of the Lebanese national conference is that it constitutes vigilance and a readiness to confront perils. The conspiracy to which Lebanon is being subjected has as its targets the care for Lebanon's Arabism and the pan-Arab force that supports Lebanon. The talk about Lebanese legitimacy cannot be genuine unless it guarantees Lebanon's independence and territorial integrity.

The Lebanese national conference is the starting point for the national forces' cohesion. It is also a convergence of legitimacy as long as this conference works to consolidate Lebanese patriotism. Despite the minority that rallies around Israel both in Lebanon and the Arab arena, national and pan-Arab efforts will suffice to avert the danger. Perhaps, the Lebanese national resistance is living proof of this.

Concluding, AL-BA'TH says: Whether a new Baghdad pact or a new Brzezinsky document is heralded, the pan-Arab weight that toppled all colonialist alliances and plans still exists. This is because Arab Syria, which had the honor of defiance and confrontation, possesses both weight and capability and will not allow the undermining of Lebanon or its being turned into a scene for alliances, plans, and conspiratorial schemes against the nation and the future of its generations.

Under the headline "A Lebanese National Referendum," the newspaper AL-THAWRAH says in its editorial today: The honorable Lebanese citizens from various sects and positions have expressed their faith in Lebanon's unity—land, people, and institutions—when they yesterday responded to the national duty call under these difficult circumstances. They held the largest national referendum on adherence to Lebanon's unity, independence, and Arabism. They also adhered to the need to elect a new Lebanese president as a prelude to ending the fragmentation and fighting and closing the file on the Lebanese problem.

Al-THAWRAH adds: As this is the Lebanese people's firm will, it is certain that those who violate this will and continue to implement an Israeli scheme that threatens Lebanon and its future can speak only for themselves, be they a group or individuals. These individuals or this group can only reap disappointment and failure because they cannot defy the will of the Lebanese national consensus or act contrary to the Lebanese people's wishes.

This is because doing so will effect self-destruction. Lebanon—unanimous yesterday on national unity and the need to realize accord to restore security and stability on all Lebanon's territory—will not have mercy on any of those who seek to destroy and divide it. Lebanon knows how to punish those who plot against its fate and future and those who stake the constants of both the homeland and Arabism.

Afghanistan

Najibullah Congratulates Gorbachev on Election

LD0210190488 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] President Najibullah has sent a message of congratulations to Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on his election to the post of chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet. Here is the text of the message:
To: Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, the Kremlin, Moscow
Dear Comrade Mikhail Sergeyvich,
We, the leadership of the Republic of Afghanistan, the people of Afghanistan, all the patriotic forces of the country, and myself learned of your election to the post of chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet with a deep feeling of satisfaction.

You have earned the great trust of your heroic people as a result of your indefatigable work and efforts to implement the revolutionary restructuring of Soviet society and to develop openess and democracy.

People all over the world link you with the current great, positive developments in the international arena and the real prospects for peace in a world free from nuclear arms and tension. These are the basic tenets of the new political thinking.

You are known in Afghanistan as a great and true friend of the Afghan people, a true supporter of expanding cooperation between the people of the two countries. We highly value your fruitful efforts aimed at a peaceful solution to Afghanistan's problems, as well as your outstanding role in the successful conclusion of the Geneva negotiations on Afghanistan. Today, the patriots of Afghanistan have taken serious steps toward national reconciliation relying on the traditional friendship, all-round support, and selfless assistance of the Soviet Union. They give a crushing response to the [words indistinct] efforts of the opposition to prevent the implementation of peace in our country.

The peaceful initiative of the Soviet Union and the Republic of Afghanistan made possible the beginning of the withdrawal of the limited Soviet military contingents from Afghanistan. We see in these moves a bright manifestation of the new political thinking from which the national reconciliation policy draws its strength. Dear Mikhail Sergeyvich, please accept our wholehearted and sincere congratulations on your election to the lofty and responsible position of chairman of the Soviet state, and our good wishes for your health and continued success in the difficult and noble service for your people and peace in the world. Long live indefatiable Afghan-Soviet frendship!

[Signed] Najibullah, President of Afghanistan and General Secretary of the PDPA Central Committee

Najibullah Receives Cosmonauts, Lauds Flight

LD3009203988 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Excerpts] Esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan received this morning for a farewell meeting the Soviet cosmonauts and guest delegation at Gol Khanah Palace, the headquarters of the presidency. During this meeting Esteemed Najibullah said: The valuable services you have performed in carrying out research and important scientific studies during the joint Afghan-Soviet flight honor the people of both countries. Our people value them greatly. I hope such scientific work will continue in the future.

Esteemed Najibullah added: The joint Afghan-Soviet space flight and your visit to Afghanistan is a great event. Our people appreciate your valuable services. Esteemed Najibullah said: You cosmonauts have advanced the historical Afghan-Soviet friendship to the level of space research with your consistent and useful efforts and hard work. Understanding the importance of this scientific event, our people warmly welcome you. We are grateful for the cooperation of the Soviet cosmonauts during this space success in which, for the first time, Afghan cosmonauts took part in a space flight and research. [passage omitted]

At the end of the meeting, Esteemed Najibullah presented the cosmonauts with photograph albums of the Afghan-Soviet cosmonauts which had been prepared by BAKHTAR during their visit to the Republic of Afghanistan. This meeting was also attended by Muhammad Aslam Watanjar, minister of communications and head of the state commission for the joint Afghan-Soviet space flight; Yegorychev Nikolay Grigoryevich, USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary; and Lieutenant 'Abdul Ahad Mohmand and Brigadier General Dawran, the Afghan cosmonauts.

Najibullah Greets PRC Leaders on National Day

LD0210064088 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0442 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] Kabul, Oct. 1, BAKHTAR—Najibullah president of the Republic of Afghanistan and Doctor Muhammad Hasan Sharq prime minister of Afghanistan sent a congratulatory greeting to His Excellency Yang Shangkun president of Republic of China and His Excellency Li Peng prime minister of China, to the occasion of national day anniversary of China to Beijing on September 30. We are happy to convey the [words indistinct] ourselves and the people of Afghanistan on the anniversary of your national day to you and the people of China.

People of Afghanistan and people of China have been leading good relation for years now. Having in mind the common interests which is associated with world peace, reduction of tension in the region, people of both countries maintained close relations. Now with the signing of Geneva agreements, which grants the peace and stability

in the region and the world, and brings a good atmosphere to the relation between two countries, we hope this relation will be expanded. Implementation of these agreements will be practical only if the concerned sides abide their duties asigned by the agreements, so that they will help our peace loving neighbours to find the way for peace.

We expect from People's Republic of China as an old friend of Afghan people to help us obtain peace, as done in the past. Availing the opportunity we hope a good health to you and success to the brotherly people of China.

Najibullah Attends Sarandoy Anniversary Meeting

LD3009073488 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0506 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] Kabul, Sep. 29, BAKHTAR—President of the Republic of Afghanistan, Najibullah participated at a grand meeting which was held in the Ministry of Interior today on the occasion of the 10th founding anniversary of Sarandoy [people's militia]. President Najibullah was welcomed at the Ministry of Interior by Lieutenant General Muhammad Rafi', vice-president, Dr Muhammad Hasan Sharq, prime minister, Dr. Khalil Ahmad 'Abawi, speaker of the House of Representatives, Mahmud Habibi, speaker of the Senate, Lieutenant General Sayyed Muhammad Gulabzoy, minister of interior, Lieutenant General Shahnawaz Tanay, minister of defence, Lieutenant General Ghulam Faruq Ya'qubi, minister of state security, some members of the Politburo and members of the Central Committee of the PDPA and some personal of the Ministry of Interior.

At the beginning of the meeting President Najibullah delivered a speech congratulating the personnel of the Ministry of Interior on the occasion and expressed confidence that personnel of Sarandoy will defend the interests of the people of Afghanistan in the future as well. Later on President Najibullah and Dr Sharq awarded honourary banners of the Republic of Afghanistan to the commanders of some contingents and detachments and orders of the Republic of Afghanistan to those officers and soldiers of the Ministries of Interior and Defence who have shown merits in maintenance of peace and security and realization of the national reconciliation policy.

After that Sayyed Muhammad Gulabzoy, minister of interior spoke on the achievements of the personnel of Sarandoy in realization of the national reconciliation policy and determined the future duties of the Sarandoy personnel in ensurance of peace and security in the country and assured President Najibullah that the personnel of Sarandoy having high combat morale will spare no efforts serving the benefits of the people of Afghanistan. After that message of personnel of the Ministry of Defense was read out on the occasion by Captain General Zabiullah Ziarmal, chairman of the political affairs of the Army and message of personnel of the Ministry of State Security by Brigadier General M. Arif Sakhara, chairman of the political affairs of the Ministry of State Security and gifts of the said organs were awarded to the minister of interior as well.

Later on message of the personnel of the Ministry of Interior of the Soviet Union addressed to the personnel of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Afghanistan was read out by a Soviet officer. The Soviet officer also handed over the Soviet gift to Sayed Muhammad Gulabzoy, minister of interior.

Delivers Militia Day Speech

LD2909220588 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 29 Sep 88

[Speech by Esteemed Najibullah, president and supreme commander of the Armed Forces, on 29 September on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the founding of the People's Militia at a meeting held in the Conference Hall of the Interior Ministry—recorded]

[Text] Esteemed comrades and friends: I say clearly that I accepted the invitation to attend your grand meeting to celebrate Afghanistan's People's Militia Day with a special feeling of satisfaction. Our People's Militia has been transformed into a symbol of revolution, bravery, and heroism. Our popular People's Militia is the body in which the children of all nationalities and tribes have worked on the fronts of the April Revolution, defending and implementing the national reconciliation policy during these difficult years for our young republic. The Afghan people judge the people's sovereignty taking into account your heroism and self-sacrificing struggle. On behalf of the Presidency, Government, and the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, I congratulate you, very dear comrades, on this grand festival and, through you, all the Interior Ministry personnel.

I have full confidence that our people's militiamen will stand in the trench to defend the interests of Afghanistan's people. Today, the Armed Forces and all true patriots of Afghanistan are struggling bravely against the imperialism and regional reaction that attack Afghanistan's freedom and national sovereignty.

Relying on the USSR's fraternal and selfless assistance, we have revived our industry and agriculture. We have created many opportunities for private investors and businessmen. We have worked to improve the living standard of all Afghans and we are advancing with confidence despite great difficulties. The leadership of the Republic of Afghanistan has pursued the national reconciliation policy and continually enriches this new political strategy with its initiatives and proposals.

The Geneva accords form a reliable legal and international basis for the settlement of the situation around Afghanistan. Afghanistan and the Soviet Union implement practically and responsibly all their commitments. However, it should be said, unfortunately, that the

positions of Pakistan and the United States do not follow this path. The extremist forces continue to interfere in the internal affairs of Afghanistan supported and assisted by those two countries. The extremists continuously inflict their armed interference and terror on the people of Afghanistan. They inflame regional tension. Using political methods and compromise to resolve the situation around Afghanistan simultaneously with enhancing the combat capability of the Armed Forces, we are consolidating the defense of the cities and organizing people to defend the Republic of Afghanistan. As before and particularly in the current conditions, we attach great importance to the role of the Interior Ministry's personnel; this is the greatest section of the country's Armed Forces.

The Central Committee Politburo, the state, the Government, and myself highly assess the role of the People's Militia in the struggle against the destructive activities of the armed uncompromising opposition to the people's power, and its role in defending our compatriots against criminal aggression and in establishing revolutionary legality.

Your propaganda activities among the people have been notable. You have done much work in order to distribute the free assistance given by the Soviet Union, a friendly country. I consider it necessary to mention your peaceful activities in the field of construction and repair of schools, hospitals, mosques, residences, irrigation systems, and roads. This provides a fine example of creating a peaceful life for all. The award of the honorary title of "Hero Unit" to two regiments and one battalion, the award of the title of "Hero of the Republic of Afghanistan" to two distinguished members of the People's Militia are evidence of the fact that we value the good and honorable heroism of the People's Militia personnel. [applause] During 7 and ½ years, 38,671 members of the People's Militia have been awarded medals and decorations.

Reviewing the serious struggle against the extremists, we see the type of great work you have undertaken in the interests of the people and the revolution. However, my dear brothers-in-arms, this is only the beginning. A hard and relentless struggle is before us and we will sustain bitter losses. The important thing is that we have learned the just nature of our cause and struggle, and we have full confidence we will be victorious over evil and darkness. We have full confidence in the implementation of our ideas, for which we will sacrifice the most dear thing, our lives. We have tasted the bitter taste of temporary failures. These failures have been good lessons and have inspired us to be more dynamic.

In the present complicated situation we must constantly enhance our combat and operational expertise and the level of professional readiness in all our activities. We should work indefatigably to enhance our personnel's level of the political awareness. We should consolidate discipline, awareness, unity, and cohesion. We should concentrate the basic force of each unit and company of the Interior Ministry's members, officers, commanders, and political workers on foiling the armed aggression of the uncompromising extremists, and on defending villages, cities, the country's capital, and provincal centers. In this regard, a special responsibility, that is, the safe and lasting defense of Kabul, the capital of our beloved country, has been entrusted to you and to Comrade Gulabzoy, the interior minister of the Republic of Afghanistan. Moreover, it is necessary to ensure the security of economic establishments, transportation, and people's properties against violations by embezzlers and bribe-takers. You should ensure personal security, order, discipline, and the rule of law.

We will never forget your great work in receiving emigrants. We have before us bold and brave plans. Our duty to the noble and brave Afghan people and their history is to put into practice these plans for the progress of a free, independent, and nonaligned Afghanistan. We will not retreat from our gains. We will not surrender our cities and villages to anyone. Today we also declare that we want to establish peace not through war but by peaceful means, by negotiations and compromises. Would not real brothers hear each other's voices and would they not take steps to welcome each other? If someone does not hear this voice, then the responsibility will rest on them. The voice of war will never be victorious over the voice of peace. We have an unshakeable confidence in this fact; therefore, victory will be ours.

I wish you, dear comrades and brother-in-arms, health, prosperity, and new successes in serving our beloved country and in fulfilling combat and operational duties.

Thank for your attention. [applause]

Appointment of U.S. Envoy for Rebels Assailed

LD3009183388 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] The Foreign Ministry spokesman of the Republic of Afghanistan has said with regard to the appointment of Michael Williams as the U.S. special envoy for the armed Afghan extremists that this appointment is an unnecessary and provocative action which will only serve to aggravate the situation. We consider this action a flagrant violation of the Geneva accords, particularly by the country that signed as a guarantor. Such action by the United States is taking place at a time when a decided majority of world leaders have on several occasions expressed their support for the Geneva accords concerning the resolution of the situation surrounding Afghanistan, particularly during the 43d UN General Assembly. The most far-sighted politicians of our planet consider the Geneva accords to be the foundation and the beginning of a settlement of one of the hottest regional conflicts and demand that the parties involced create the possibility for peace by strictly observing the accords.

The U.S. measures give rise to concern that contrary to its commitments, that country is fanning the flames of a destructive war in this part of the world and undermining the hopes for peace in our country. We once again call on the United States to honor fully the Geneva accords and to put a stop to the suffering and pain of our people, which comes from interfering in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. The United States should not tolerate the failure of the possibilities for peace and means to establish peace, which are made possible as a result of long efforts of the United Nations.

Foreign Ministry Submits Protest Notes to UN

88th Notice

LD3009070088 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0515 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] Kabul, Sep. 29, BAKHTAR—The 88th notice of the Republic of Afghanistan on flagrant violations by Pakistan of the Geneva accords was submitted on September 28 to the UNGOMAP [UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan] office in Kabul. The notice has given detailed information to the UNGOMAP about the despatch of explosive materials from the territory of Pakistan which has caused deaths and injuries of tens of persons. The notice asked the UNGOMAP to investigate the case and convey the same to the Republic of Afghanistan and the UN secretary general's envoy.

89th Notice

LD0210063588 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0457 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] Kabul, Oct. 1, BAKHTAR—Eighty-ninth notice of the Republic of Afghanistan on flagrant violations by Pakistan from the provisions of Geneva agreements was submitted today to the United Nations Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan (UNGOMAP). In the notice, detailed information of nine instances of Pakistani violations from article second, document number one of Geneva agreements are given. It asks UNGOMAP to investigate the matter and inform the Afghan side and representative of the UN secretary general of its results.

90th Memorandum

LD0210171688 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] The office of the Afghan Foreign Affairs Ministry for coordination with the UNGOMAP [UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan] reports that this afternoon the 90th memorandum of the Republic of Afghanistan on Pakistan's blatant violations of the Geneva accords has been submitted. This memorandum provides information on six instances of blatant violation by Pakistan of Document No 1, Article 2 of the Geneva accords and requests the delegation to assess Pakistan's violations as soon as possible and to present the results to the Afghan side and to the envoy of the UN secretary general.

Afghan Rebels Capture District Capital

BK0110104488 Hong Kong AFP in English 1025 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] Islamabad, Oct 1 (AFP)—Afghan rebels captured Friday a strategically important district capital in eastern Konarha Province near the border with Pakistan, the resistance AFGHAN NEWS AGENCY (ANA) reported Saturday. The mujahidin rebels took Asmar after a two-month siege, ANA said, adding that all the government troops there had surrendered to Muslim rebels of Hezb-e Eslami (Hikmatyar group). The provincial capital Asadabad, west of Asmar, is also under mujahidin siege, the resistance sources said.

The official Afghan news agency BAKHTAR said in a report monitored here that the Afghan Army had killed nine "extremists" and wounded fifteen in the Shin Kowrok area of Konarha while another seven were killed in southern Qandahar Province. It did not say when the operation took place.

Rebel Leader Killed in Lowgar Province

LD3001190380 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] Three of our compatriots were martyred and another seven were injured when their bus hit a mine planted by the armed extremists in (Tajpari) village in Laghman Province. The injured persons were quickly taken to the hospital. The hospital said their medical condition is improving.

The military section reported that Ghazi, one of the ringleaders of the Gulbuddin band, along with two members of his group, were killed on 23 September as a result of an explosion at a rocket launching unit while shelling the residential regions in the capital of Lowgar Province. In addition to criminal deeds, murder, plunder, robbery, and terrorism, he had attempted to disrupt security in the above regions by launching surface-to-air missiles aimed at residential areas and threatening the local people. However, he himself was died while perpetrating his evil deeds. The report adds that as a result of the explosion, six of his accomplices, including one Pakistani adviser, were seriously injured.

Nazar Muhammad, another criminal attached to the Gulbuddin band, was also killed together with three extremists on 23 September. The report adds that as a result of heavy weapons fire by the members of the above extremist groups, the Mola Aga Muhammad mosque was damaged and several houses were destroyed. The inhabitants of the capital of Lowgar Province voiced their disgust with the extremists because of the damage to the mosque and residences.

'Extremists' Fire Rockets at Jalalabad, Khowst

LD0110173600 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] The extremist elements fired eight surface-to-surface missiles at Wards 1, 2, and 4 of the city of Jalalabad this morning martyring and injuring a number of our compatriots. As a result of this criminal action by the extremists, 17 of our compatriots, including women and children, were martyred and 34 persons were injured. Three residential houses were also destroyed. Those injured were taken to the hospital for treatment.

According to another report, as a result of the extremists firing surface-to-surface missiles into residential areas of Khowst District, five of our compatriots, including two children, one woman and two men, were injured yesterday. Another report from Nangarhar Province states that as a result of a mine which had been planted by the extremists along the (Rodat) public highway, 3 persons, including 2 children and 1 man, who were travelling in a bus were martyred and 17 passengers were injured.

Bangladesh

Minister Rejects Canal Proposal To Control Floods

BK0110170488 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] The foreign minister, Humayun Rashid Chowdhury, and Education Minister, Anisul Islam Mahmud, who accompanied the president to New Delhi for talks with Indian Prime Minister Mr Rajiv Gandhi on Thursday last, categorically stated in Dhaka today that the setting up of the task force by Bangladesh and India in no way precludes regional cooperation and seeking international support for the solution of the problem of floods.

The ministers emphatically stated that the exclusion of any country [words indistinct] will not be conducive to a lasting permanent solution of the problem of floods. Addressing newsmen, the ministers also reiterated that the task force itself may consider the solution of the problems of floods involving third country. It was in pursuance of this policy that President Ershad will be visiting Nepal tomorrow and later on Bhutan and China as it is convenient to these countries.

Answering a question, the foreign minister pointed out with emphasis that the link canal proposal [of 1978 made by previous task force on flood control set up by India and Bangladesh] is dead and buried forever and cannot be revived in any form whatsoever.

India

President, Prime Minister Congratulate Gorbachev

BK0110163488 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] The president and the prime minister have felicitated Mr Mikhail Gorbachev on his election as the president of the Soviet Union. In his message, Mr Venkataraman said India is sincerely happy at the richly-deserved honor, which has been conferred on Mr Gorbachev. He expressed the confidence that the excellent bilateral relations between India and the Soviet Union will receive a further impetus under the leadership of Mr Gorbachev in state matters in the Soviet Union. Recalling their recent meeting in Moscow, Mr Venkataraman said he is looking forward to Mr Gorbachev's visit to India later this year.

The president also said the outstanding personal contributions of Mr Gorbachev to the cause of world peace and disarmament have created a new climate in international relations and are greatly valued by us in India. Mr Venkataraman extended his best wishes to Mr Gorbachev for many more years of fruitful work with his enhanced responsibility for welfare and prosperity of the great people of the Soviet Union and for peace and goodwill in the world.

The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in his message wished Mr Gorbachev all success in his historic endeavor in the service of the people of the Soviet Union and for the cause of world peace.

USSR Proposes Foreign Trade Bank Branches

BK0110050188 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] The Soviet Union has proposed to open its foreign trade bank branches in India in order to enable swift transactions between the two countries. This was disclosed by two senior Soviet trade officials at a joint press conference in New Delhi. They expressed the hope that it will give a boost to bilateral trade and economic relations, particularly in the field of joint ventures. The branches are proposed to be opened in Delhi, Bombay and Calcutta.

Gandhi Holds Talks With Nepalese King 30 Sep

BK3009093488 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] King Birendra of Nepal and Mr Rajiv Gandhi had wide-ranging talks in New Delhi today on regional cooperation. King Birendra is the outgoing chairman of the SAARC. He arrived in the capital last evening as part of his visit to all member countries. Earlier, this morning the king called on the president, Mr R. Venkataraman. The meeting lasted about half an hour.

More on Birendra Talks

BK3009162988 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] King Birendra of Nepal and the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, today held a general review of all activities under the SAARC. During their 80-minute meeting in New Delhi, the two leaders discussed measures to further develop areas of mutual cooperation among the SAARC nations with special emphasis on

areas of interest to their people. These include housing, environment, and food reserves. King Birendra and Mr Gandhi also reviewed bilateral matters in depth. The delegation of the two countries met separately.

Later, the official spokesman said all subjects of common interest to India and Nepal were discussed. The Indian delegation was led by the minister of state for external affairs, Mr K. Natwar Singh, and included the foreign secretary, Mr K.P.S. Menon. The Nepalese side was led by its foreign minister, Mr Shailendra Kumar Upadhyaya, and included the foreign secretary, Mr Narendra Bikram Shah, and the ambassador of Nepal, Mrs Bhindeswori Shaha.

King Birendra has since left for Kathmandu. Talking to newsmen before his departure, he expressed satisfaction over his talks with Mr Gandhi. Earlier in the morning King Birendra called on the president, Mr Venkataraman. The Nepalese king was in New Delhi primarily in his capacity as SAARC chairman.

Gandhi Forms Ministerial Panel on Punjab

BK0110085988 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, today constituted an eight-member ministerial committee for a dialogue with the opposition parties to resolve the Punjab problem. The external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, will be heading this committee. Its other members are the finance minister, Mr S.B. Chavan; the home minister, Mr Buta Singh; the defense minister, Mr K.C. Pant; the industry minister, Mr J. Vengal Rao; the textiles minister, Mr Ram Niwas Mirdha; the welfare minister, Mrs Rajendra Kumari Bajpai and the minister of state for home, Mr P. Chidambaram.

Ershad Says Delhi Visit 'Definite Success'

BK3009033488 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] The Bangladesh president, General Ershad, has described his 1-day working visit to Delhi as a definite success. Talking to our correspondent, Akshai Raut, at the airport yesterday, he said he is going home satisfied. Referring to his wide-ranging talks with the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, he said we have found satisfactory solution to many bilateral problems.

During the talks, Gen Ershad apologized for what he termed bungling by officials in Dhaka asking India to withdraw its helicopters. He told the prime minister that the IAF [Indian Air Force] helicopters, deployed at their request, had been asked to be withdrawn without his approval. He tried to retrieve the situation, but the helicopters had already left. He thanked the prime minister for the prompt assistance rendered by India in the hour of distress.

During his visit, India and Bangladesh agreed to set up a task force to study the Ganga [Ganges] and the Brahmaputra waters jointly for flood management and water flow from them. The task force would look at both short-term and long-term measures and consult the existing studies on the problem.

'High-Level' Delegation Leaves for China

BK0310090388 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 3 Oct 88

[Text] A high-level official delegation led by the foreign secretary, Mr K.P.S. Menon, left for Beijing this morning on a 5-day visit to China. The delegation includes the secretary, information and broadcasting, Mr G.K. Arora, and joint secretary, East Asia, in the External Affairs Ministry, Mr Vijaya Nambiar. The official-level consultations in Beijing will be on matters of mutual concern to both the countries, including the question of the prime minister's visit to China.

2 Former Leaders Readmitted Into Congress-I

BK0110164888 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] The Congress-I president, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has readmitted Mr Pranab Mukherjee and Dr Channa Reddy into the Congress-I. This was announced by the general secretary, Mr K.N. Singh, in New Delhi today.

Police Fire on 'Violent' Mob in Bihar, Kill 6

BK0110165288 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] In Bihar six persons were killed and seven injured in police firing on a violent mob at Siswan Village near Motihari in East Camparan District yesterday. The police had to open fire when a violent mob attacked people who were coming back after cremating a child. The situation in the village is reported well under control and police patrolling has been intensified; 25 persons have been arrested so far in this connection.

Gurkhas Begin Surrender of Arms 2 Oct

BK0210091688 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] In West Bengal, GNLF [Gurkha National Liberation Front] activists started laying down their arms in Darjeeling this morning. AIR correspondent, C.K. Dorji, reports that a large number of GNLF activists lined up before the Gymkhana club to lay down their arms. The state home secretary, Mr M. Krishnamurthy, the GNLF leader, Mr Subhash Ghising, and senior district officials were present. Mr Krishnamurthy told our correspondent that the response from GNLF activists in laying down of arms has been good and work is going on smoothly.

Sikh Priest Killed by 'Terrorists' in Gurdaspur

BK3009054588 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] In Punjab terrorists shot dead a granthi [Sikh priest] in village Dhulewal in Gurdaspur District and injured another person in Patiala last night. The four persons killed in village (Punniyaya) in Amritsar District on Wednesday night have been identified as terrorists. They were victims of intergang rivalry.

'Terrorists' Kill 7 in Punjab 30 Sep

BK0110084988 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] In Punjab terrorists shot dead seven persons in village Karmuwal in Amritsar District last night. According to an official spokesman, terrorists armed with automatic weapons came to the village and opened indiscriminate fire. In another incident, some terrorists attacked the house of a farmer in village Kartowal. One of them was injured, when the farmer returned the fire. The terrorists, however, managed to escape.

Iran

Delegation in No Hurry To Trade Envoys With UK

NC3009083388 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0440 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Report by unidentified correspondent of the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in London—monitored in progress]

[Text] ...which continued in Geneva for the past 3 days, concluded after five rounds. The text for a joint statement and a plan to implement the normalization of relations between the two countries were discussed during these talks, and the greater part of the proposed texts of the statement and plan have met with approval by both sides.

Sources close to the talks have stated that minor differences of opinion between the two sides will be ironed out in light of the views of the respective countries' higher officials, and that the final political decision will be announced later.

During these talks, the delegation of experts from the Islamic Republic of Iran's Foreign Ministry tried to resolve problems in normalizing relations between the two countries, while simultaneously stressing the principle of reciprocity, in keeping with the views of the people and officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Following the triumph of the Islamic Revolution in Iran, the British Government closed down its embassy in Tehran in a purposeful, unilateral move. During the next 8 years, it followed a dubious policy to the benefit of the Iraqi regime in its war with Iran, including maintaining silence on most of the atrocities perpetrated by Iraq against Iranian civilians.

By recently adopting a clearer position on the issue of Iraqi use of chemical weapons, the British Government joined other European states in expressing greater eagerness to improve relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran, under pressure from public opinion. In his speech to the UN General Assembly 2 days ago, the British foreign secretary vehemently attacked and castigated Iraq for using chemical weapons. He has also recently stressed that there was concrete evidence of Iraq's use of chemical weapons.

It is expected that relations between Tehran and London will return to normal 1 month after the joint statement is disseminated. However, from the trend of the talks it does not appear that the Iranian delegation is in a hurry to exchange envoys.

Restoration of Ties 'Uncertain'

LD3009161088 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] London, Sept 30, IRNA—The British Foreign Office is not saying anything about the imminently expected announcement of improved relations with Iran but reports from Geneva suggest that the preliminary talks did not go as well as Britain had hoped.

"Anything that has to be said will be said on behalf of Sir Geoffrey Howe after the ministerial meeting," a spokesman told IRNA Friday.

He said that he had heard reports that the negotiations in Geneva had run into difficulties but the Foreign Office for the moment was saying "nothing at all"

The Geneva talks were to set the premises for Britain's first ministerial meeting with Iran since the Islamic Revolution, when British Foreign Secretary Howe meets his Iranian counterpart Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati in New York Friday but were prolonged by two days.

When the preliminary negotiations started Tuesday the Foreign Office had anticipated that they would be a "one-day affair" and sources in Geneva suggest that no formal decisions could possibly be taken when they concluded Thursday and head of the Middle East desk at the Foreign Office flew to brief Howe in New York.

British press reports suggested Friday that seemingly little progress was made in the talks where Britain has been wanting a full restoration of relations and the re-opening of its embassy in Tehran as a full mission for the first time since 1979.

The London GUARDIAN and the FINANCIAL TIMES spoke of no decisions being reached in Geneva and THE TIMES of London said that "prospects for a resumption of full diplomatic links with Iran remains uncertain."

Earlier the dailies reported that up to a dozen British diplomats had been standing by to fly out to Tehran, led by a charge d'affaires and the possibility of ambassadorial level being reached in six months.

It is widely expected that an announcement of improved relations will still be made but not to the extent that Britain had been hoping. One difficulty is thought to be the apparent unwillingness of the U.K. Government for being more forthright about its changed policy towards Iran.

Commentary on Ties With UK

LD0110160288 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1100 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Commentary entitled "The Normalization of Relations Between Iran and England"]

[Text] Yesterday, following the 45-minute talk between Iran and the UK at the annual UN General Assembly session in New York, the following announcement was made:

The two countries have agreed to resume full diplomatic ties. The preliminary talks between the political delegations of Iran and Britain, which have continued since last week's talks in Geneva on normalizing the relations between the two countries, ended on Thursday evening. In these talks, the text of a statement and a plan for normalizing relations between the two countries were discussed. Apparently, the major part of the statement and the plan have been mutually agreed upon. It is expected that within a month, following the departure of a British delegation for Tehran, relations between the two countries will resume a normal pattern.

The relations between Iran and Britain go back a long way but have been under constant tension since the victory of the revolution and following the intentional adoption of the British position. Besides the British positions adopted after the revolution, an unpleasant atmosphere had developed between the two countries due to the Britain's disagreeable role in the contemporary history of Iran, and the colonialist aims that government had consistently pursued in Iran. In addition, the positions adopted by Britain following the victory of the revolution further exacerbated this suspicion. Following the victory of the Islamic Revolution, Britain closed its embassy in Tehran unilaterally. Throughout the imposed war, it also took a suspicious position favoring Iraq over Iran in the Gulf war. For example, it remained silent regarding some of the atrocities committed against Iranian civilians by the Iraqi regime.

In addition to the active and widespread presence of the British Navy in the Persian Gulf and its increasing alliance with the United States in opposition to the Islamic Revolution, last year following the obvious violation of diplomatic regulations by the British police who injured an Iranian diplomat in Manchester and the arrest of the British employee of that country's interests section in Tehran on charges of espionage, relations between the two countries reached their lowest level.

The Islamic Republic has never been the initiator in lowering the level of relations with other countries, but at the same time it has shown that neither will it give in to extortion. In view of the conditions at the time, British actions and positions regarding the Islamic Republic, if not considered a sign of that government's hostility to the revolution, are not considered a sign of friendship either. In view of this in the negotiations on normalizing ties with Iran, equality between the two countries has been emphasized as well as respect for the opinions of the Islamic Republic's people and officials.

The improved position of the British Government regarding Iraq's use of chemical weapons, albeit a positive step, is not considered to be enough. The British foreign secretary, in his speech to the UN General Assembly, severely attacked and criticized Iraq for deploying chemical weapons. This follows his recent emphasis that the documentation of Iraq's deployment of chemical weapons was sufficient.

At any rate, the Islamic Republic, adhering to the principle of mutual respect, favors preserving friendly ties with all the countries in the world. The normalization of the relations between the two countries would be meaningful within this context, but the limit of the extension of these ties depends upon the understanding shown by the other side and in a practical manner.

Reportage on Velayati Activities at UN Session

Meets With Counterparts

LD3009173988 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Velayati, who is currently in New York to participate in the 43d UN General Assembly session, met with the Argentine foreign minister, who is the current president of the UN General Assembly. They discussed a variety of international issues as well as bilateral cooperation.

Dr Velayati also met the FRG foreign minister. The FRG will assume the presidency of the UN Security Council next week. The two officials discussed current UN Security Council issues and the recent deliberations between the UN secretary general and the Iranian and Iraqi foreign ministers concerning implementation of the UN resolution. The upcoming trip by the FRG foreign minister to Iran was also discussed.

In his meeting with Dr Velayati, Canadian Foreign Minister Joe Clark expressed his pleasure over the resumption of relations between Canada and Iran. The ministers discussed the forthcoming reopening of the Canadian Embassy in Tehran.

The Somali foreign minister, who is the current chairman of the Arab League, also met our foreign minister. They discussed bilateral relations and Arab issues.

The Cypriot foreign minister, who is the current chairman of the nonaligned foreign ministers committee, informed Dr Velayati of current issues in the Nonaligned Movement. The ministers also discussed bilateral relations, and the reopening of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Cyprus.

The Brazilian foreign minister, who is currently a member of the UN Security Council, also discussed international and UN Security Council issues with Dr Velayati. The ministers also discussed the formation of a joint commission to review the expansion of Iranian-Brazilian relations.

Our foreign minister also met with the Danish, Qatari, and Bahrain foreign ministers and attended a special session of foreign ministers of the Islamic Conference Organization.

Talks With UK's Howe Noted

NC0110082788 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Report by unidentified London correspondent of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran—recorded]

[Excerpt] Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, our country's foreign minister, currently in New York to participate in the 43d session of the UN General Assembly, met the British, SFRY, Cuban, and Pakistani foreign ministers last night. British Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe, in his meeting with our foreign minister, informed him that the five permanent UN Security Council members had stressed the need for a serious and complete implementation of UN Security Council Resolution No 598.

The British foreign secretary, who is acting as coordinator for the five permanent UN Security Council members, informed Dr Velayati of the outcome of the meeting of the five members with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. While stressing the need to implement Resolution No 598 fully and to the letter, Dr Velayati said that the basis for the Iran-Iraq talks should be the 1975 agreement and that the introduction of all issues unrelated to the resolution will be opposed by the Islamic Republic of Iran. Dr Velayati explained the Islamic Republic's close cooperation with the UN secretary general and added: The reason for the slow pace of the talks is that the other side introduces issues unrelated to the subject.

On the subject of mutual ties between Iran and Great Britain, Dr Velayati and Geoffrey Howe endorsed the talks by experts from the two sides in Geneva last week on normalizing relations. They stressed that related talks on the methods of normalizing ties between the two countries should continue there until final results are reached. In a news conference held following his meeting with Dr Velayati, Mr Howe stressed that his country wants to resume diplomatic ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In the meetings between our country's foreign minister and his SFRY counterpart, the latter expressed his country's complete readiness to cooperate with the UN secretary general regarding the implementation of Resolution No 598.

Following a discussion on Resolution No 598, Cuban Foreign Minister Malmierca briefed our country's foreign minister on the talks among Cuba, Angola, and South Africa on Namibian independence. [passage omitted]

Meets Pakistan's Yaqub Khan

LD0110110688 Tehran IRNA in English 1010 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 1, IRNA—Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati discussed Tehran-Islamabad ties, as well as important regional and international issues including Afghanistan situation and the procedure of Iran-Iraq peace talks with his Pakistani counterpart, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan Friday.

During the meeting at the U.N. headquarters in New York, Velayati dealt [as received] on obstacles created by Iraq on the way of the implementation of U.N. Resolution 598 and on Iraq's violations of the resolution. He explained Iran's cooperation with the U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar for the implementation of the resolution.

The Pakistani minister stressed his country's support for Perez de Cuellar's efforts to implement the resolution. He also announced his country's readiness to cooperate with Iran in this regard.

Yaqub Khan also discussed latest developments in Afghanistan and their impacts on regional peace.

The two sides stressed further expansion and strengthening of mutual relations.

Velayati has been in New York since Wednesday for the second round of the Iran-Iraq peace talks due to resume today under the auspices of Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Talks With Perez de Cuellar

LD0110123788 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] We begin our foreign news with a report concerning discussions between the UN secretary general and Foreign Minister Velayati in New York before the start of trilateral talks between the Iranian and Iraqi foreign ministers and the UN secretary general.

[Unidentified correspondent] Javier Perez de Cuellar, UN secretary general, met the Foreign Minister Velayati at UN Headquarters in New York this morning. During the meeting, the first round in the discussions between the two following the transfer of negotiations on Resolution No 598 from Geneva to New York, the UN secretary general made a number of new proposals concerning the implementation of Resolution No 598 aimed at removing current problems blocking the progress of the negotiations. During the session it was also decided that the first round of the trilateral negotiations will be held at UN Headquarters tonight.

At the same meeting Dr Velayati informed the secretary general of the views of the Islamic Republic concerning various ways to implement fully Resolution No 598; and it was agreed that Iranian experts and those of the UN will immediately begin reviewing their work in order to look into the new proposals made by the secretary general.

Negotiations concerning the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution No 598, which began in Geneva in July, stopped after 3 weeks due to the problems created by the Iraqi delegation and their attempts to raise issues outside the framework of the resolution. The new phase of negotiations in New York—transferred there despite opposition by the Iraqi delegation and as a result of insistance by the Security Council—will be carried out under the direct supervision of the members of the council and the UN secretary general. It is expected that the council—by focusing its attention and that of the secretary general on the negotiations and wielding greater power based on full council support—will neutralize Iraqi attempts to stall the negotiations. This will force the Iraqi delegation to accept the views of the UN and the desires of the international community. In addition, it is also expected that the Security Council will voice its viewpoint on the sentence "recognized international borders" mentioned in the text of Resolution No 598 and thus block Iraq's aggressive position, particularly its attempt to violate the 1975 accord.

During his stay in New York, Dr Velayati has met with the foreign ministers of the USSR, UK, France, and the PRC, four permanent members of the Security Council, and has conveyed the views of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Talks With Iraq To Continue in New York

LD0210123488 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] The first session of the tripartite talks between the Iranian and Iraqi foreign ministers and the UN secretary general opened today at UN Headquarters in New York at 0130. The talks continued in two sessions until 0530. They began with the secretary general's request that the second part of the first point of the resolution, including the withdrawal of forces, exchange of POW's, and other issues contained in that part, should be implemented as soon as possible. In addition to discussions on the schedule, full implementation of the first point of the resolution, shipping in the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz, was discussed. The two sides expressed their views on the matter.

Regarding the Arvand River, the Iranian delegation clearly expressed their views about the validity of the 1975 accord. They pointed out that although the question of dredging the Arvand River is important as far as Khorramshahr, Abadan, and other Khuzestan ports' shipping is concerned, the discussion should be held in its own good time and and on the basis of the legal criteria set out in the 1975 accord. The Iranian delegation stressed: The implementation of the first point of Resolution No 598 has no connection with any other issue, not even the Arvand River and its dredging, and it should be implemented quickly. At the end of the talks, it was agreed that they will resume on Monday.

This morning's talks in New York should apparently be regarded as very important, first, because of their continuity, and second, because the Iraqi delegation was no longer able nor permitted to indulge in recalcitrance as in the previous round in Geneva. It was obvious that in accordance with the wishes of the secretary general and at the insistence of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the talks have become substantive and that its ceremonial aspect, as desired by Iraq, has been completely dropped.

UN sources believe that with the full support of the the Security Council, the secretary general was able to show in the talks that he is serious about pursuing the issue. The Iranian delegation showed that it seeks peace and the implementation of the resolution, within the framework of accepted and acceptable principles, and also insists on the preservation of the rights of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

It seems that the Iraqi delegation is unable to pursue its past course of blatant sabotage of the talks, thanks to the political prssure of the international community and world public opinion. The all-round and unanimous support given by the Security Council to the secretary general also shows that the international community seeks the speedy implementation of Resolution No 598 and that Iraq's excuses will not be accepted nor tolerated.

Iraq's 'Isolation' Noted

LD0210190688 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Interview with unidentified London correspondent of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the results of the new round of talks in New York between the foreign ministers of Iran and Iraq held under the auspices of the UN secretary general by unidentified Tehran correspondent; date, place not given—recorded]

[Unidentified Tehran correspondent] The foreign ministers of Iran and Iraq met again today in the presence of the UN secretary general after halting the talks for some time. What was the outcome of these 4-hour talks in New York?

[Unidentified London correspondent] In the name of God; greetings to you and the esteemed viewers [as heard]. It is still too early to discuss the outcome of the current talks in New York. We must wait for more talks. However, it is necessary to mention that the first point on the agenda of the talks is the full implementation of Article 1 of Security Council Resolution No 598. It states that in addition to a cease-fire, the Security Council requires the withdrawal of forces to internationally recognized borders, fixing a date for the exchange of POW's and for the appointment of a commission to identify the initiator of the war. The secretary general, in his opening speech during today's session, demanded the full implementation of Article 1 of the resolution. In the corridors of the UN building, the probability of reaching a more rational result is strengthened, thanks to close supervision by the Security Council and the secretary general during this round of talks in New York.

[Tehran correspondent] What has been Iraq's position in this round of talks?

[London correspondent] Basically, Iraq is pursuing a policy of talks without reaching any results. This tactic resulted in a lack of progress during the Geneva talks. This time however, the Security Council, in a joint session with the foreign ministers of the five permanent members, expressed its full support for the secretary general, the implementation plan, and the need to implement the resolution. The secretary general has clarified the point that the talks should be serious and comprehensive.

The Iranian delegation, while expressing full support for the secretary general, has also clarified its position and announced that the dredging of the Arvand River is highly important for Iran, too. However, the discussion on its implementation should be carried out in another place and at another time in accordance with articles of the 1975 treaty. It is natural that, thanks to Iraq's present political isolation in the international community, it has lost the courage to continue its disruptive Geneva tactics and it is fully aware of the Security Council's unanimous and all-embracing support for the secretary general.

Reopening of Kuwaiti Embassy Called 'Major Step'

JN0210132188 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 1 Oct 88 p 1

[Text] Two Kuwaiti diplomats are in Tehran and have reopened their embassy there in a major step toward normalising relations between the two northern Gulf states who were on the brink of war a few months ago, a senior Iranian diplomat said on Thursday.

Mohammad Forughi, Iran's charge d'affaires in Kuwait [name and title as published], told the ASSOCIATED PRESS that relations between the Gulf neighbours were warming rapidly following the Aug 20 ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war.

Kuwaiti expelled five Iranian diplomats in September last year, reducing Iran's embassy staff to Forughi and an aide, after mobs stormed the Kuwaiti Embassy in Tehran following riots in the holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia.

But Kuwait stopped short of actually severing relations with Tehran as Saudi Arabia did later, citing Iranian subversion and terrorism.

Well-informed sources said the Kuwaiti diplomats in Tehran are a charge d'affaires and a counsellor, putting Kuwaiti representation on a par with Iran's. The sources said they expect both countries to gradually increase the size of their representations.

The improvement in relations, which has been building up for several months, is part of a regional stabilisation set in motion by Iran's July 18 unconditional acceptance of the United Nations-sponsored ceasefire and peace talks to end the eight-year-old Gulf war.

Forughi asked when the Kuwaitis arrived in the Iranian capital, said: "A short time ago." He added: "We maintain good relations with Kuwait and there are no obstacles that hinder normalisation."

The move came after Kuwait's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Sa'ud al-'Usaymi, expressed Kuwait's keenness to normalise relations with Iran.

Khomeyni Decrees Son To Compile Works, Documents

LD0110175288 Tehran IRNA in English 1735 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] Tehran, Oct 1, IRNA—The leader of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeyni in a decree issued today assigned his son to process all documents relevant to him and to compile all his published and unpublished works including books, speeches and films.

The decree was issued in response to a letter to the founder of the Islamic Republic by Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni, inquiring about his eminent father's unpublished works such as books on Islamic ethics and sciences, documentaries and speeches as well as the 24,000-folio dossier kept on him by the former Iranian Security Organization (SAVAK).

Seyyed Ahmad had cited the different accounts in existence of some of his father's messages as a reason for writing the note in order to prevent possible distortion.

In response to the letter, the leader of the Islamic Revolution assigned his son to collect all writings, speeches and other documents relevant to him.

Elsewhere in his decree, Imam Khomeyni lauded Seyyed Ahmad's honesty and insight into social and political affairs and hailed him as a constant companion and a sincere son who has always remained steadfast alongside his father whatever the circumstances.

The text of the letters of Imam Khomeyni and his son were published by the Persian daily 'ETTELA'AT' in its Saturday's issue. The daily also printed two different accounts of one of imam's speeches as reason cited by Seyyed Ahmad for writing the note.

Ahmad Komeyni is the imam's second and only surviving son. The elder, Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Mostafa Khomeyni was martyred by agents of the now defunct shah in 1977 in the holy city of Najaf (Iraq), where Imam Khomeyni was in exile.

Foreign Ministry Denies Ties to Executed Saudis

LD0110165088 Tehran IRNA in English 1603 GMT 1 Oct 88

["Saudi Sectarianism Feeds on Believers' Blood—Foreign Ministry"—IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 1, IRNA—A Foreign Ministry spokesman Saturday refuted Riyadh regime's allegation that the recently-executed four Muslims had collaborated with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Hijaz Interior Ministry had accused the four Arabian Muslims of having links with Islamic Iran.

The spokesman, adverting to Riyadh's efforts for suppressing Muslim revolutionaries, said Saudi rulers in line with their sectarian policy try to justify their deep hatred by shedding the blood of faithful Muslims.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman, expressing concern over the fate of other Muslims detained by the Saudi regime, called on international circles to press for the detainees' safe release.

Hizballah To 'Avenge' Deaths

NC0110190188 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] Following the execution of four mujahidin in Hijaz by the Al Sa'ud regime, Hizballah al-Hijaz issued a statement denouncing this inhuman crime by the agent rulers of Hijaz and urging the conscience of free people and the international organizations which pretend to care about the protection of human rights to use all available means to save the lives of the Hijazi scholars, thinkers, and mujahidin being held in the Al Sa'ud's horrible prisons.

The statement said that the agent regime in Hijaz executed the four because of their opposition to the U.S. presence in the region, their rejection of the Arab reactionaries' pessimistic policies toward the Palestinian cause, their efforts to liberate the sacred land of Hijaz from imperialism, and their outspoken remarks about the injustice being meted out to the manacled Saudi people.

The agent regime in Hijaz believes that it can stop the tide of the Islamic Revolution movement. However, the masses of Hizballah al-Hijaz will continue on the road of martyrs, uphold the correct faith, avenge the blood of these great martyrs, and liberate the two holy mosques from the hegemony of the enemies of Islam and Muslims.

Qom Clerics Stage Protest March

NC0210075188 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, following the execution of four Hijazi Muslim mujahidin and the arrests of numerous other devout Muslims and combatant scholars of the Hijaz by the Al Sa'ud regime, a group of Hijazi seminarians and clerics at Qom Seminary staged a march last evening through the streets of Qom to condemn the repressive measures of the Jazirat al-'Arab ruling regime and to express solidarity with the fettered Hijazi nation.

According to this report, the Hijazi clerics who participated in this march congregated in the courtyard of the sacred shrine of Her Holiness Ma'sumeh, peace be upon her, and proceeded with placards denouncing the Al Sa'ud policy against the world's Muslims, and the Hijazi Muslim nation in particular.

The report adds: The marchers then met His Eminence Ayatollah Montazeri at the conclusion of the protest.

Montazeri Denounces Saudis

LD0210163588 Tehran IRNA in English 1448 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 2, IRNA—Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri Saturday strongly lashed out at the Saudi Government accusing it of "executing the policies of colonialism and global Zionism, instead of supporting true Islam and Muslims."

The future leader of the Islamic Revolution also described the Saudi regime as a "filthy" entity installed in Hijaz by the British and later strengthened by the West and particularly the U.S. Ayatollah Montazeri said the Saudi regime remained in power by depending on the U.S.

The remarks by the prominent religious leader came in a meeting in the holy city of Qom with a group of Saudi scholars studying at Qom's theological school and in the wake of the execution of four Saudi Arabian Muslims by the Riyadh regime Friday.

A statement by the Saudi Interior Ministry Friday said the four Saudi Muslims had been beheaded on charges of "sabotage and collaboration with Iran." But Iran's Foreign Ministry Saturday categorically denied any link between the victims and the Islamic Republic and further accused Riyadh of attempting to justify its crime in shedding the blood of "faithful Muslims."

The visitors condemning the Saudi executions, asked for help for the mujahidin of the Islamic movement in Hijaz.

Elsewhere in his remarks, Ayatollah Montazeri urged Muslims not to remain silent towards the "tyrannies and crimes" of the Saudi Government against Islam and combatant revolutionaries and voice the innocence of the Hijaz nation to the world and the international community.

Of course, he regretted, one should not pin much hope in these (international) assemblies but "nevertheless, we must fulfill our duty because silence vis-a-vis these tyrannies is in no way permissible."

In the opinion of Ayatollah Montazeri, court mullahs were the ones strengthening the "oppressive rule of corrupt leaders" in Islamic states and living people to tolerate this oppression. He then exhorted the visitors and other Saudi intellectuals to enlighten the people in a bid to prevent their further deviation by the Saudi pseudo-clergy.

Navy Commander Interviewed on Minesweeping

LD0310094088 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0741 GMT 03 OCt 88

[Interview with Rear Admiral Malekzadegan, Navy commander, by unidentified correspondent on the Armed Forces program; date and place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Admiral, thank you for giving us your time. During the past few days, the Islamic Republic's Navy successfully carried out minesweeping operations in northern and southern areas of the Persian Gulf. Regarding the operation, please describe the progress made and the motive behind it, if possible.

[Malekzadegan] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. With the acceptance of Resolution No 598 and the relative calm which came to the region, in order to increase security in the Persian Gulf area, particularly the international waterways, the Iranian Navy took the initiative to take positive and effective steps. The first step was to clear the area of mines. This began on 22 September—coinciding with the 1st day of Holy Defense Week—in two regions. The second region is in the northern part of the Persian Gulf and the first region in the central part [as heard].

During this period, God be praised, thanks to the efforts of committed Navy personnel, much progress was made in the first and second regions. According to reports we received, a large area was cleared. During this period, our minesweeper and RH53 helicopters, which specialize in minesweeping, were used along with support units using various methods. They are carrying out this task using new methods in the first region.

To prove that the area has been cleared of mines and is absolutely safe, our first convoy of warships, including a (?Pasivar) warship and two missile boats, sailed from Bushehr for Khur Musa—they arrived at that port yesterday—to show that convoys can sail safely in the waterway to the east of Khark Island. Minesweeping has commenced in the west. We were informed that they encountered one or two mines, which were neutralized. Work is in progress in the central area.

God be praised, progress has been good. We shall continue our work until we have achieved the final result, which is absolute security for shipping lines, to prevent vessels from hitting mines.

[Correspondent] Following the cease-fire, and bearing in mind the relative tranquillity in the Persian Gulf, what in your view is the foreign fleets' motive for their remaining in the region?

[Malekzadegan] First of all, they had no acceptable motive, not to anyone in the world, for their presence in the first place. One of the issues raised was their interest in the Persian Gulf. The other issue was that regional countries had asked them for assistance. So they established a presence here. All this is irrelevant now. They might still be talking about their interests in the region, illegitimate interests one may say. We do not understand what interests they have here, some tens of thousands of miles away. They might use this reason to maintain their presence here, but we totally reject this reasoning. In no way can one accept the presence of outsiders' fleets in the region. Persian Gulf security, its entire sovereignty, must be secured by the sovereign states in the region.

[Correspondent] In the light of 8 years of sacred defense, how do you assess the progress of self-sufficiency in the Islamic Republic's Navy.

[Malekzadegan] One of the important achievements since the Islamic Revolution's victory has been the Navy's self-sufficiency in all respects, in the field of training, maintenance and repair work, innovations and inventions—all of which was necessary for the sacred defense and for the navy to demonstrate its power in the region. Regarding training, we have achieved complete self-sufficiency; this is the greatest success achieved by the Navy. [passage omitted]

Fortunately, our forces have achieved complete readiness to meet any technical problem that might arise. In addition, all our units, including our air units, Hovercraft units, our technical personnel, are all in good state of readiness. [passage omitted]

Red Crescent Society Ready for POW Exchange

LD0110185788 Tehran IRNA in English 1845 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] Mashhad, Oct. 1, IRNA—Iran's Red Crescent Society (IRCS) is ready to comply with the article of U.N. Resolution 598 concerning exchange of POWS between Iran and Iraq, said IRCS Secretary-General Seyfollah Vahid Dastjerdi Saturday.

Speaking to a group of IRCS officials in this holy city, Dastjerdi said IRCS has made all necessary arrangements for exchange of POWS such as filling out special forms to identify Iraqi POWS.

Dastjerdi criticized the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for its silence on the Baghdad regime's chemical genocide of Kurds in northern Iraq and for its failure to send any statistics on Iranian POWS since early August.

Elsewhere, he disclosed that the Iran's Red Crescent is to build five medical centers in Tanzania, Sudan, Mozambique, Ghana and Bangladesh with a total investment of dlrs 1.25 million.

The Islamic Republic donated over rials 100 million (dlrs 1.4 million) worth of foodstuff, tents, medicines and other essentials for flood-stricken people in Sudan, Dastjerdi said. The donations were rushed to Khartoum aboard two Boeing 747 jumbo jets, he concluded.

Iraqi Mojahedin Stage Resistance Maneuvers

LD0110195388 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] To mark 8 years of holy defense and to commemorate the self-sacrifices of the fighters of Islam, a resistance manuever code-named "Labbayk Ya Khomeyni" [We answer your call, O Khomeyni] was staged on the heights in the Jankaran area in Qom by the Iraqi mohajedin of the IX Badr Corps and the military unit of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq [SAIRI].

According to a Central News Unit report, during the exercises, SAIRI Chairman Hojjat ol-Eslam Hakim described the active presence of the Muslim Iraqi Mojehedin and strugglers in 8 years of holy defense. He called on the Iraqi Mojahedin and immigrants to ignore false propaganda by the enemy, to maintain unity, to increase their Islamic revolutionary spirit, and to continue their struggle to free the oppressed land of Iraq from the clutches of the Ba'thist Party.

Egypt Bans Businessmen's Travel to Tehran

LD3009094188 Tehran IRNA in English 0930 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] Athens, Sept. 30, IRNA—The Mubarak regime has not given permission to Egyptian executives of the Egypt-Iran Company for Yarn to travel to Tehran for discussion of the company's matters, Egyptian newspaper AL-WAFD reported.

Iran had proposed alternative meetings of the board of directors of the company in Cairo and Tehran, the daily said without mentioning the reason for the travel ban on the Egyptian executives of the company.

Tehran has no diplomatic relations with Cairo, cut off when Anwar al-Sadat signed a peace treaty with the Zionist state in 1979.

The Iranian public sector owns 49 percent of the share in the company, while Egypt owns 51 percent, the paper added.

Pakistan

Killings, Violence Erupt in Hyderabad, Karachi

Curfew Imposed in Hyderabad

BK0110024488 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] Official sources in Hyderabad have said that some unidentified persons entered the city in vehicles last night and opened fire with automatic weapons on innocent civilians. These sources have said a number of persons were killed or wounded in the indiscriminate firing in various parts of Hyderabad. Police parties arrived on the scene immediately and they pursued the culprits. One of the vehicles was intercepted and two persons were arrested.

The Hyderabad district magistrate has imposed curfew in all the police station limits except cantonment police stations. However, curfew will be in force in (Bitai Nagar) and (Bedak) colony areas in the cantonment.

According to APP [Associated Press of Pakistan], 6 persons were killed and 31 wounded in the firing between a group and police in Dera Ismail Khan yesterday. The news agency has said that this group was beginning a procession, defying government orders.

Situation 'Under Control'

BK0110083688 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] The caretaker Sind chief minister, Mr Akhtar Ali Kazi, has arrived in Hyderabad and is having a meeting with senior officials about the law and order situation. Official sources said this morning that the situation after last night's incident in the city is calm and under control.

Over 120 Deaths Reported

BK0110144688 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] A high-level judicial inquiry has been ordered to look into the violent incidents that took place in Hyderabad last night. Talking to newsmen in Hyderabad today, the acting chief minister of Sind, Akhtar Ali Kazi, said 10-12 investigation teams have begun interrogating some suspects who were arrested soon after the violence. He assured newsmen that all possible steps are being taken to arrest the culprits and control the situation.

The Hyderabad district magistrate has confirmed that more than 120 people were killed and 187 injured in the incidents that took place in the city last night. He told Radio Pakistan's correspondent that the law and order situation in the city remained peaceful and the situation was under control today.

The Karachi commissioner has issued a press note saying that in reaction to yesterday's incidents in Hyderabad, sporadic incidents of violence took place in various Karachi districts today. Law enforcement personnel have intensified patrolling since last night. Groups of armed men have obstructed the movement of passersby in isolated and desolate areas. According to reports, 32 people died of their injuries in different police station areas. Other injured people were discharged from hospitals after first aid. The administration has appealed to the people of various communities to extend their cooperation in maintaining law and order and in restoring normalcy in the affected areas.

Sind Minister on 'Sabotage'

BK0210034888 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] The acting chief minister of Sind, Akhtar Ali Kazi, said that Friday's [30 September] violent incidents in Hyderabad were an act of sabotage, not an ethnic issue. In an interview in Karachi, he said he spoke to many people during his visit to Hyderabad yesterday and he also visited the hospitals. On all those occasions, everybody was of the unanimous view that these regretful incidents were an act of sabotage.

Curfew was relaxed for 2 hours in the curfew-bound areas of Hyderabad at 0700 [0200 GMT] this morning.

Sind Cabinet Reviews Situation

BK0210083088 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] The Sind Cabinet at its meeting in Karachi today reviewed the law and order situation in Hyderabad and Karachi. The caretaker chief minister, Mr Akhtar Ali G. Kazi, who presided over the meeting, asked the ministers and advisors to immediately visit the areas and meet the people belonging to all sections and make every effort for an early restoration of peace.

The chief minister said the incidents of violence in Hyderabad were a preplanned conspiracy carried out in a scientific manner. The cabinet was informed that the government will pay due compensation for the dead and injured. The damage to property will be surveyed and compensation will be paid to their owners. The cabinet was further informed that an initial amount of 5 lakh rupees has been given to the Hyderabad administration and 1 lakh to the Combined Military Hospital, Hyderabad, for providing medical facilities to the victims. The cabinet also offered fateha [prayers] for the departed souls.

Curfew Imposed in Karachi

BK0110082088 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] According to an announcement by the Karachi administration, curfew has been imposed with immediate effect in the jurisdiction of Shah Faisal Colony, Malir, Model Colony, and Landhi police station in Karachi District East, and Liaqatabad and Nazimabad police stations of Karachi District Central after some incidents of violence.

The deputy inspector general of police, Karachi, told our representative that curfew has been imposed as a preventive measure to check the further spread of violence.

'Violent Reaction' in Karachi

BK0110125088 London BBC World Service in English 1200 GMT 1 Oct 88

[From the "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] A curfew has been imposed in parts of the Pakistani city, Karachi, following a violent reaction to Friday evening's massacre in Hyderabad, about 100 miles to the north. At least 40 people have been killed in Karachi and another 70 wounded. The death toll in Hyderabad has risen to 160. George Arney reports from Islamabad:

[Begin Arney recording] When news of the massacre reached Karachi, there was an instant reaction. Angry youths wearing masks and carrying Kalashnikovs erected roadblocks in some areas to stop the traffic. Gunmen, some on motorbikes, shot dead innocent bystanders. In one of the suburbs, a bus carrying villagers

to buy fish at the (?harbor) was stopped and attacked. About a dozen people were gunned down. Shops, markets, and schools in many areas closed down. A curfew was imposed on some of the most volatile parts of the city. It is still not clear who was responsible for yesterday's massacre in Hyderabad when unidentified gunmen riding in cars opened fire simultaneously in about 30 different places. Pakistan radio said that two men were caught by the police, but their names have not been released. It may be linked to the ethnic violence which has repeatedly wracked the Province of Sind. But local politicians point out that members of both the Sindhi and Muhajir communities were attacked in Hyderabad and there are the usual rumors that the trouble was deliberately engineered in order to create an excuse for elections to be postponed. [end recording]

'Sporadic' Incidents in Karachi

BK0210162688 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] A press note issued by the commissioner of Karachi said the situation in Karachi Division was generally peaceful today. However, sporadic incidents of violence occurred in districts central and east in the jurisdiction of police stations of Gulberg, Joharabad, and New Karachi. Groups of miscreants pelted stones, fired at police, and damaged public property. Four vehicles were damaged in these areas by arson. One body was recovered from the jurisdiction of Joharabad Police Station. Over 50 arrests have been made.

Curfew has been imposed with immediate effect in the (Ancholi) Police Station of Gulberg. Curfew restrictions shall also be observed daily in other parts of police stations of Joharabad, Gulberg, and New Karachi from 2100-0700 in the disturbed areas.

The press note said groups of miscreants fired at police station, Korangi area, during the day. As a result, one policeman succumbed to injuries. Police and Army patrolling has been intensified. In police station Jamshed Quarters, groups of persons pelted stones and fired at the police. Curfew has been imposed in the jurisdiction of police station Jamshed Quarters with immediate effect. Police have made a number of arrests. The situation in other parts of the division was peaceful.

Killings Continue in Hyderabad

BK0210144588 Hong Kong AFP in English 1428 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] Hyderabad, Oct 2 (AFP)—At least four people were killed here Sunday in fresh armed clashes that erupted when authorities lifted a curfew for two hours, official sources said.

More than 200 people have been killed here since masked men began shooting in several places Friday, said THE PAKISTAN TIMES.

Revenge rioting spread to the nearby port city of Karachi, Pakistan's largest city 160 kilometers (100 miles) south of here, where 65 people have been shot dead according to hospital sources. Two more people were killed and two others died from injuries there Sunday, they added.

Streets in Karachi were empty as more than half of the city was under curfew. The clashes have been the deadliest since independence, former Prime Minister Mohammed Khan Junejo said Saturday.

In Hyderabad, rival armed groups clashed in seven parts of the Urdu-speaking Mujahir areas after authorities relaxed the curfew for the first time. Three Sindis and an unidentified fourth person were killed, official sources said.

The clashes have pitted the Mujahirs, refugees from India after the partition between India and Pakistan in 1947, against the local Sindis.

Angry mobs took to the streets during the break, setting fire to two bungalows in the Latifab District, witnesses said.

The streets of Hyderabad were deserted, and only a van was seen moving on a nine-kilometer (six-mile) stretch from the airport to the center of the city, witnesses said. Troops in battle gear were patrolling the streets.

Groups of rioters blocked the roads and attacked buses and other vehicles, forcing people to go back home, witnesses said.

Heavy exchange of fire between rioters and law enforcement agents was reported in the eastern district early Sunday, but the losses were not yet known.

Reports reaching here from nearby areas said violence and armed clashes broke out at several smaller towns resulting in unspecified casualties.

Residents here said the killers were "well trained," but added that they did not know the identity of the gunmen because they had donned masks.

"They were killing really indiscriminately, without caring if the victim was a Sindhi or Muhajir," said a student who lost his nephew.

Some residents said lights went off in several places when the killing began at dusk Friday.

The residents said that mysterious cars carrying armed men soon appeared on the streets before the shooting began, prompting them to flee in the dark. Police patrols were smaller than normal because of a holiday, they said.

Residents said they believe the killers were trained in India or in the Soviet Union, echoing a government analysis, but agree that all could not be foreigners.

"They had relied on local miscreants also," said one.

"The motive is still a mystery and some people fear it could be a used by the caretaker government as a pretext to delay general elections due in November," said a youth, echoing this time the version put forward by the opposition.

The Sind Province Cabinet discussed at an emergency session the worsening situation and said there would be compensation for losses.

Chief Minister Akhtar Ali Kazi said the incident was a planned conspiracy to create chaos and anarchy in Pakistan.

The local Sindis have never fully accepted the Muhajirs, refugees from various parts of India since independence and the division between Muslim-majority Pakistan and Hindu-majority India in 1947. Both Sindis and Muhajirs are Sunni Muslims, but the former speak Sindi while most of the latter speak Urdu, Pakistan's main language. The Muhajirs form a majority in both cities but are a slight minority in Sind Province.

'Isolated Incidents' Continue

BK0310023688 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 3 Oct 88

[Text] The overall law and order situation in Hyderabad remained under control yesterday. Official sources told Radio Pakistan's Hyderabad correspondent that isolated incidents of shooting took place in the city which were controlled by the law enforcement agencies. According to these sources, three persons were killed in these incidents in various parts of Hyderabad.

Army Chief Gives Briefing

BK0110164088 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] The chief of the Army staff, General Mirza Aslam Beg, has said the tragic Hyderabad incident is a link in the same chain of events which formed part of the [word indistinct] conspiracy aimed at destabilizing the country. He was talking to officers at a briefing in Hyderabad this evening. General Mirza Aslam Beg said these are undoubtedly premeditated and preplanned terrorist activities executed carefully by experts. He said the violence began with the sectarian trouble in Gilgit, the assassination of Allamah Arif al-Hussaini [Shi'ite religious leader] and C-130 plane crash resulting in the death of the president, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, and other senior military officers.

General Mirza Aslam Beg said we are alert to the situation and will ensure all necessary steps to frustrate the designs of the enemy. He said free and fair elections will be held as scheduled to form a fully representative government to run the affairs of the country.

The chief of the Army staff declared that Armed Forces would remain on maximum alert to deal with any (?crisis) by the enemies of Pakistan and support the government in ensuring peaceful conditions in the country.

Death Tolls Noted

BK0310103088 Hong Kong AFP in English 0941 GMT 3 Oct 88

[Text] Karachi, Oct 3 (AFP)—Pakistan's largest city was under curfew Monday, its streets deserted after three days of ethnic violence which has left some 300 people dead here and in Hyderabad.

Only Karachi's seaside residential quarter showed any sign of life, witnesses said.

Press reports and hospital sources said 300 people had died since Friday in clashes between native Sindis and Muhajirs, who fled from India on independence from Britain in 1947.

Many of those wounded in the clashes were in critical condition, the hospital sources said.

Pakistan's President Ishaq Khan was currently in Karachi and planned to travel to Hyderabad, officials said.

Gunmen shot dead seven people in Hyderabad, 160 kilometres (100 miles) north of here, overnight Sunday and six people, including a policemen, in Karachi, press reports said.

A group of youths threw a grenade into a police vehicle in Karachi, but it did not explode, THE NATION daily said.

The curfew here has been steadily extended to cover most of the city.

Schools, universities, markets, public buildings and most shops remained closed. Public transport was very scarce, witnesses said.

"The people are worried," said one diplomat here.

The Army has been reinforced and was patrolling in full battle gear the eastern and northern parts of the city, where snipers have been numerous.

The eastern industrial district of Korangi, where dozens of people were killed Saturday, has been surrounded by the security forces, press reports said.

Snipers have continued shooting at passers-by, police vehicles and ambulances both here and in Hyderabad, the reports said.

A curfew has also been imposed in several other cities in Sind Province of which Karachi is the capital.

The violence began late Friday when groups of suspected Sindi gunmen began opening fire on crowds of Muhajirs in Hyderabad.

Press reports Sunday said the attackers were well armed and organized, adding that "a foreign power" may have been behind the violence.

Army chief-of-staff General Aslam Beg said Saturday that "enemies of Pakistan" had fomented a "conspiracy" to de-stabilize the country.

The Pakistan authorities are generally taken to be referring to the Soviet Union, the Soviet-backed government in Kabul and India when they claim outside interference, observers said.

The press has long claimed that India has financed, trained and armed Sindi separatists.

The antagonisms between Sindi and Muhajir, unemployment in the province, freely available weapons such as AK-47 assault rifles, rocket launchers and grenades, all make the deadly work of "terrorists" that much easier, press reports here and in Islamabad said Monday.

Ishaq Khan on Situation

BK0310114588 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 3 Oct 88

[Text] President Ghulam Ishaq Khan has given categorical assurance that effective measures are being taken immediately to stop any recurrence of the law and order situation. Talking to notables in Hyderabad today, he expressed regret over the tragic incidents in which many precious lives were lost and property damaged. He agreed with the notables that the issue was not an ethnic one, and different factions of the society wanted to live in peace and brotherly atmosphere. He assured that nobody will be spared from process of accountability whether it may be the administration or representatives of any faction. Those responsible will be severely dealt with. The president said he had come to Hyderabad especially to look into the matter and to see the root cause of the problem. If proper notice is not taken, it may lead to serious repercussions and prove harmful to the country as a whole. The president announced that some orders and regulations will be issued in a week's time to strengthen the legal position in an effort to quickly punish the culprits and those illegally possessing arms. The president offered fateha [prayers] for those killed in the Friday's incidents.

Earlier, the president attended a briefing in connection with the incidents. The president arrived in Karachi from Hyderabad this afternoon.

Federal Cabinet Approves Ruling on Parties

BK0210133288 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] The Federal Cabinet meeting in Islamabad today approved amendment to the Political Parties Act 1962 to bring it in line with the decision given by the Supreme Court recently. Amendments in the representation of People's Act 1976 were also approved to make the election process more fair. The president, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, chaired the meeting.

The Cabinet expressed its deep concern over the tragic incidents in Hyderabad and Karachi and decided to take immediate steps in consultation with the Sind government in regard to the [words indistinct] measures. It also reviewed the damage caused by the floods in the Punjab.

Parties To Participate

BK0210145288 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] In a decision passed today, the Supreme Court has said that every political party will be eligible to take part in the elections to every seat in the national and the provincial assemblies scheduled to be held on 16 November. The decision was passed by a full bench of the court after the hearing of a constitutional petition by Ms Benazir Bhutto against the Federation of Pakistan. The court also held the Section 21 of the Representation of the People's Act 1976, as amended by Representation of the People Amendment Ordinance 1985, as violative of fundamental rights contained in Section 2 of Article 17 of the Constitution. The court held that the Section 21 of the said ordinance failed to recognize the existence of political parties and their participation in elections. It also did not mention anything about the allocation of election symbols to the political parties, and hence the ordinance is unjustified. As a result of this, the political parties will be entitled to avail of the provisions of Subrule 2 of Rule 9 of the Conduct of Elections Regulations 1977 under the Representation of the People Act, which empowers the Election Commission to allot an election symbol to any political party or to two or more political parties who have agreed to set up joint candidates for election.

The expenses of the law suit will be borne by the parties concerned. The full bench consisted of Chief Justice Mr Justice Mohammad Haleem and 11 other judges of the court. Earlier, Mr Yahya Bakhtiar and Attorney General Mr Aziz A. Munshi completed their arguments in favor of and against the constitutional provisions. The court was assisted by Ali Ahmad Tanwir and (Ahsan Wase).

The court also rejected another constitutional petition seeking the holding of elections on the basis of proportional representation. It was presented by Dr Nur Mohammad.

Minister on Elections

BK0310022688 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 3 Oct 88

[Text] The federal justice minister, Mr Wasim Sajjad, has said that the national and provincial assemblies elections will be held on schedule on a party basis. He said in Islamabad that the government will implement the supreme court's directive.

National Assembly Speaker Summons Lower House

BK2909162788 Hong Kong AFP in English 1522 GMT 29 Sep 88

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 29 (AFP)—The speaker of Pakistan's dissolved National Assembly Thursday summoned the Lower House to meet on Sunday.

President Mohammad Ziaul Haq had sacked the government of Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo and dissolved the National Assembly on May 29.

The summoning of the Parliament by Speaker Hamid Nasir Chatha, issued in a notification published Thursday, followed a decision by the Lahore High Court Tuesday that the late General Ziaul Haq's dissolution order was unconstitutional. Gen. Ziaul Haq died in a plane crash in August.

A notification issued by the Secretariat of the National Assembly said that Mr. Hamid had summoned the National Assembly to meet Sunday under Clause Three of Article 58 of the Constitution.

Following Tuesday's Lahore court verdict, former MP's [members of Parliament], mostly supporters of Mr. Junejo's Pakistan Muslim League had launched a campaign to have the assembly reconvened, saying that legally it was still in session.

Pakistan Muslim League Secretary General Iqbal Ahmad Khan has said that Tuesday's ruling meant that Mr. Junejo was still prime minister.

Gen. Ziaul Haq had accused Mr. Junejo's government of incompetence, corruption and failing to carry out the president's Islamisation policy fast enough when he sacked the government and dismissed Parliament in May.

Supreme Court Rules on Dissolution of Assembly

BK0110120288 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] On a petition for leave to appeal having been presented by the Federation of Pakistan by Mr Aziz A. Munshi, attorney general of Pakistan, instructed by Chaudhary Fazle Hussain, advocate on record, the Supreme Court is pleased to pass an order on 30/9/1988 that pending disposal of the petition, the operation of the order dated 27/9/1988 of the Lahore High Court in regard to the unconstitutional dissolution of the National Assembly and the provincial assembly of Punjab is suspended.

The court further stated in the order that as a consequence thereof the speaker of the National Assembly, Haji Mohammad Saifullah Khan, former MNA [member of National Assembly]; and secretary of the National Assembly in Islamabad, and any other person claiming under them are restrained from calling, holding any meeting of the dissolved National Assembly on 2/10/1988 or on any other date at Islamabad or at any other place as per notification dated 29/9/1988 issued by the speaker, secretary, or otherwise in any other manner, either directly or indirectly, and or conducting any proceeding or do any act whatsoever in purported capacity as speaker, secretary, member of the dissolved National Assembly.

It may be recalled that the speaker of the National Assembly by a notification dated 29/9/1988 in purported exercise of powers had summoned the National Assembly to meet in the Parliament House in Islamabad at 0900 on Sunday, the 2d October, 1988. The order the Supreme Court has been passed at the instance of the Federation of Pakistan as a consequence of which the speaker of the National Assembly, [and the] secretary of the National Assembly have been restrained as above.

Stay Order Extended

BK0210154088 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 2 Oct 88

[Text] On a petition filed by the Federation [of Pakistan], the Supreme Court today extended the stay order against the Lahore High Court verdict in connection with the dissolution of the National Assembly. The court began hearing the appeals of the Federation, and of Haji Mohammad Saifullah and others and then adjourned the proceedings until tomorrow. The attorney general said the appeal filed by the Federation stresses the need for interpreting such issues of national importance as the use of discretionary power by the president in dissolving the assemblies.

Junejo on Court Verdict

BK0110155088 Hong Kong AFP in English 1516 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Excerpts] Islamabad, Oct 1 (AFP)—Sacked Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo said here Saturday that

he would resume his post and announce his own election schedule if a verdict declaring dissolution of parliament illegal was upheld.

"I have majority support, and let others challenge in the Parliament," Mr Junejo said at a news conference here. [passage omitted]

"We are not afraid of elections. We are prepared to hold elections only if we are asked by the Supreme Court," Mr. Junejo said. "It is up to the Supreme Court now to decide as to how quickly it should give an award," he said. "The Supreme Court decision will prevail on all," he added. [passage omitted]

Mr Junejo said his Muslim League would call for upholding of the Lahore verdict at the Supreme Court. "We are serious for that as it is the question of the honour of the Parliament," Mr. Junejo said.

He said that if national and provincial assemblies were reinstated he would discuss the question of elections with political parties and decide on the basis of consensus. "We will take the country into confidence on this issue," he said.

Asked whether the present flooding situation in Punjab Province and Friday's massacre and subsequent violence in southern Hyderabad and Karachi, along with Shi'ite-Sunni Muslim clashes in North-West Frontier Province could jeopardize the election programme, he said the situation should become clear in a week.

"It is the duty of the government to protect lives of the citizens," he said.

He described violence in Hyderabad, where about 150 people were killed in one day of ethnic fighting, as the worst in the country's 40-year history.

Mr. Junejo met with Mr. Ishaq Khan Friday. Asked whether the president had talked about unifying the two Muslim League factions, Mr. Junejo said all patriotic people wanted unity.

Meanwhile, the Lahore court has held that the dissolved national and provincial assemblies could not be restored but at the same time ruled that the office of prime minister was necessary for running the affairs of state at all times.

The full text of the main judgment released here Saturday said that the caretaker governments should confine themselves to day-to-day tasks of running the government and not take undue advantage of their position either for themselves or for their party.

The court urged them to be impartial toward everyone including rivals and opponents. [passage omitted]

Indian Allegation on Kashmir Subversion Denied

BK3009030088 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman said in Islamabad yesterday that the recent violent incidents in the Indian-occupied Kashmir reflect the growing unrest and hardships among the people of occupied Kashmir and the need for a just and honorable settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute.

He was commenting on a statement of Dr Farooq Abdullah [chief minister of India's Jammu and Kashmir State]—as published in an Indian newspaper—accusing Pakistan of sending trained subversive elements into occupied Kashmir.

The spokesman said the sole aim of Indian accusation is to malign Pakistan and to shift the responsibility onto Islamabad for recent disturbances in the occupied territory, even though these disturbances are the result of internal problems. He expressed the hope that Dr Farooq Abdullah will stop making such inappropriate statements as they will only generate tension at a time when Pakistan is striving to establish tension-free and good-neighborly relations with India.

Spokesman Comments on Delhi Talks on Siachen

BK2909153988 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 29 Sep 88

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman said in Islamabad today that there had been no change in the basic stands of Pakistan and India on the Siachen issue at the recent defense secretary-level talks in New Delhi. However, the spokesman added, the fact that the next session will be held soon indicates there was some progress in the talks and the two countries are sincere in resolving the issue through negotiations.

Spokesman on Charges of Afghan Pact Violations

BK2909114488 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 29 Sep 88

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman said in Islamabad today that Pakistan's record in implementation of the Geneva accords is impeccable and it has scrupulously observed the mechanism of dealing with violations as provided in the accords. He said Kabul and Moscow have launched a coordinated propaganda campaign that Pakistan has been violating the Geneva accords. Recently, a Soviet Foreign Office spokesman also accused Pakistan of placing restrictions on the UNGOMAP [United Nations Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan].

He said the fact is that Pakistan is fully cooperating with the team in discharge of its responsibility. Pakistan has arranged over 15 inspection visits of the team all along the border from Chitral to Chaman. The spokesman

pointed out that it is the Kabul regime itself which has been repeatedly violating the accords. He urged the Kabul authorities to observe the Geneva accords.

UN Envoy Rejects Kabul Charges on Violations

BK0110142688 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 1 Oct 88

[Text] At the United Nations, Pakistan has rejected the baseless allegations made by the Kabul administration that Pakistan has been violating the Geneva accords. Addressing the UN General Assembly, the Pakistani envoy, Ahmad Kamal, rejected the Kabul regime foreign minister's baseless allegations that Pakistan is hindering the efforts by the United Nations Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan, which are investigating the violations of the Geneva accords.

Sri Lanka

Poor Voter Turnout, Threats Mar By-Election

BK2909125888 Hong Kong AFP in English 1244 GMT 29 Sep 88

[Excerpt] Colombo, Sept 29 (AFP)—A poor voter turnout and threats by anti-government militants marred a by-election in northcentral Sri Lanka Thursday, officials here said. The Sinhalese militant Janatha Vimukti Peramuna (JVP - People's Liberation Front) had distributed leaflets urging people in the Horwpathana constituency to stay away from the polls, a senior police officer in the area said. An estimated 10 percent of the 42,700 electorate turned out to vote, Deputy Elections Commissioner W. D. L. Perera told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE. He said the result would be announced early Friday. He said unidentified men had threatened local officials not to cooperate with election staff or give them food, but the government arranged meals and the balloting was conducted peacefully.

Security forces remained on red alert for the polls, police said. At previous by-elections, JVP militants have attacked election officials and threatened voters. The ruling United National Party (UNP) is almost certain to win the by-election as the main opposition groups are boycotting the election, political analysts here said. Besides the UNP, two independent candidates are contesting the by-election.

A spokesman for the leftist United Socialist Alliance said they were not contesting the by-election because they wanted general elections. "We will not be distracted by side-shows," the spokesman said. Residents in the area contacted by telephone said policemen were seen guarding polling booths as well as key government buildings in the areas. The Horawapotana seat in Parliament fell vacant following the resignation of former MP E.L.B. Hurulle who was appointed governor for the newly constituted central provincial council. [passage omitted]

UNP Wins in Horawapotana

BK3009081288 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 30 Sep 88

[Text] In Sri Lanka the ruling United National Party has won the parliamentary by-election from Horawapotana. The UNP candidate, Mr Tilakaratna, won by a margin of about 5,000 votes in the by-election held yesterday.

Tamil Leader Warns Against Provincial Elections

BK2909164088 Hong Kong AFP in English 1521 GMT 29 Sep 88

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 29 (AFP)—The leader of Sri Lanka's main Tamil party Thursday warned against holding provincial elections in the island's Tamil areas, saying it would lead to a bloodbath.

The PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported that Secretary General of the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) Appapillai Amirthalingam told a news conference in Madras, southern India, that his party had made this clear to both the Sri Lankan and Indian Governments.

Provincial elections, scheduled in mid-November, are to be held in the merged North-Eastern Province in a bid to give Tamils greater autonomy.

Nominations for the elections are to be submitted for a week from Monday.

The TULF, once the main opposition party in the Sri Lankan Parliament, had suggested to President Junius Jayewardene that federal rule be imposed in the newly merged North-Eastern Province, PTI quoted Mr. Amirthalingam as saying before leaving for Colombo.

Mr. Amirthalingam, who fled to India after anti-Tamil riots in Colombo in 1983, said the TULF was not against the democratic process, but thought it was "too premature" to hold elections as it would lead to a bloodbath.

"We have reiterated our stand to the Indian Government that more time be given to the LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) and other militants to lay down arms and come to the negotiating table," he added.

The LTTE, the main Tamil rebel group, has repudiated a July 1987 Indo-Sri Lanka peace accord aimed at ending a bloody Tamil separatist campaign.

Some 49,000 Indian troops, deployed in Sri Lanka's north and east under the accord, launched an offensive October 10 to disarm the LTTE. Nearly 600 Indian soldiers and more than 2,000 suspected guerrillas have died in fighting since then.

Mr. Amirthalingam, believed to be on a LTTE death list, said that although some people in Tamil areas supported the LTTE, the majority wanted to see a vote.

All Sri Lanka's Tamil groups, including the TULF, still have offices in Madras, having used southern India as a sanctuary during the separatist campaign.

AFP: 8 Opposition Parties Support Bandaranaike
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[Excerpt] Colombo, Sept 30 (AFP)—Election fever mounted in Sri Lanka Friday as eight opposition parties announced a common presidential candidate for December polls, political analysts here said. The main opposition Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) said its leader, former Prime Minister Sirima Bandaranaike, 72, had been accepted by seven other parties as their joint presidential nominee. The coalition included the Sinhalese militant Janatha Vimukti Peramuna (JVP—People's Liberation Front). In 1971, a JVP led insurrection was put down by Mrs. Bandaranaike's government with the loss of at least 10,000 lives.

The Communist Party of Sri Lanka (CP), which is not in the grouping, said they were surprised by the reported JVP decision, but the development would be discussed by the party leadership over the weekend. "We cannot go by statements put out by the SLFP. We want to see what the JVP has to say, particularly since they are still continuing to kill rivals," Communist Party General Secretary K. P. Silva told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE. The JVP is opposed to a July 1987 Indo-Sri Lanka peace accord aimed at ending a Tamil separatist campaign and has been accused of killing more than 400 ruling party men, security personnel and leftists backing the pact.

Political analysts said the common choice, if ratified by the other seven parties, will enhance Mrs. Bandaranaike's chances and even encourage other minor groups to join them. The ruling United National Party (UNP) is fielding current Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadasa, 64, as its presidential candidate. Mr. Premadasa is now on an official visit to Britain. A political source close to the grouping said they were insisting on Mrs. Bandaranaike dropping the symbol of her own party and accepting another to represent the coalition. "All the members are against the presidential system of government and they want the Indo-Sri Lanka peace accord abrogated. There will be further discussions over the weekend," the source said.

However, the SLFP has said it was not totally opposed to the New Delhi-backed peace plan. An SLFP source said hardliners in the party wanted the pact scrapped while moderates wanted "certain parts of the accord re-negotiated." New Delhi has some 49,000 troops in the island's north and east in line with peace pact. The source said that Mrs. Bandaranaike had already begun her campaign and was currently touring the countryside. A UNP spokesman said the party will begin its campaign after a party convention on October 9. [passage omitted]